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TODAY: STYLE The Five Seasons, Page 10

Jacqueline Arzt/The Associated Press

With three days to go, the Labour Party leader, Tony Blair, arrived at a rally in the Midlands on Monday.

Small Expectations

Blair's Appeal Lies, in Part, in Tory Fatigue

By Warren Hoge
New York Times Service

LONDON — Last fall, Britain's Labour Party put out its official platform and boasted that its nostrums for what ails Britain had been unanimously approved by the entire party conference.

But more recently, with the party entering a national election campaign, a substitute manifesto emerged, this one bearing the stamp of only one person — the party's leader, Tony Blair, very likely to be the country's next prime minister before this week is out.

What had been a 40-page typed consensus document had been repackaged as a list of 10 principles, rendered in Mr. Blair's own crabbed handwriting — scribbled down, his campaign managers said as they distributed photocopies, in the solitude of his backyard.

Mr. Blair had been sitting in "a patch of sunlight," they said, and they circulated pictures of the luminous moment.

The piety of the presentation illuminated how emblematic Mr. Blair has become of the party that he has refashioned into what he calls "New" Labour, and how reverentially his pitchmen are treating his image in what is being called the most personality-centered election in British history.

He has gained wide acceptance for his personal mission to become the next prime minister, but his tightly managed and cautious campaign has shed less light on his plans for the country than it has on him.

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Paul McErlane/The Associated Press

Prime Minister John Major with his secretary for Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew, left, in Belfast.

EU Is Ready To Return Diplomats To Tehran

Bloc Won't Impose Tough Sanctions, Senior Officials Say

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — European Union countries will return their ambassadors to Tehran without additional diplomatic or economic sanctions beyond the recent suspension of Europe's so-called critical dialogue with Iran, senior EU officials said Monday.

The lack of support for tougher measures indicates that many European governments are reluctant to risk damage to their economic interests in Iran despite a recent German court ruling that the Tehran leadership was responsible for the murders of three Kurdish dissidents in Berlin, officials said.

EU foreign ministers, meeting in Luxembourg on Tuesday, were expected to agree to return the bloc's ambassadors to Tehran within a week, officials said. They also were expected to endorse a declaration calling on Iran to respect international law and renounce terrorism, reaffirming the suspension of Europe's critical dialogue earlier this month and maintaining a long-standing European embargo on arms sales to Iran.

The ministers were considering proposals for additional measures, including imposing visa restrictions on Iranian officials, expelling Iranian intelligence agents from embassies in Europe and suspending ministerial visits. But officials said those ideas lacked the unanimous backing of all 15 EU governments, which is needed for adoption.

A failure to agree on new measures could increase tensions with the United States, which has lobbied European capitals heavily in the past week to adopt tougher sanctions.

It also would provide comfort to Iran, whose president, Hashemi Rafsanjani, predicted earlier this month that Europe would quickly go back to business as usual with Iran. State-run Tehran radio said Monday "it appears that the EU has lost its past enthusiasm in dealing negatively with Iran," Reuters reported.

Fearing just that, opponents of the Islamic regime prepared to demonstrate outside the ministerial meeting to press for tough new sanctions.

"If they go for a weak position, that would send the worst possible signal to Tehran," said Shahin Gobadi, spokesman for the National Council of Resistance of Iran, a coalition of dissident groups. "That would tell Iran they can get away with murder."

The reluctance to stiffen European policy toward Iran largely reflects the cautious stance of Germany, Iran's biggest trading partner in Europe. Bonn succeeded in getting its EU partners to recall their ambassadors and to suspend the critical dialogue within hours of the April 10 court ruling, but since then German officials have sought to contain the damage to relations.

Officials said they had been encour-

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Jakarta Sentences Political Activists

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JAKARTA — A court imposed prison sentences of between seven and 13 years Monday on five young opposition activists accused of subversion.

The five, members of the People's Democratic Party, were arrested after riots in Jakarta last July and had faced possible death sentences under Indonesia's subversion law.

Only three political parties currently campaigning for the May 29 general elections are legally recognized in Indonesia. The People's Democratic Party, whose members went underground after the arrest of their leaders, have never received legal recognition.

Central Jakarta State Court judges, in announcing their verdict on the party's chairman, Budiman Sudjatmiko, 26, said that while he had committed a serious crime that deserved punishment, they did not agree with the prosecutors' demand for 15 years' imprisonment.

"It is already proved that Budiman Sudjatmiko committed a criminal action under the main charge of subversion," one of the judges, Syoffian Sumantri, said in sentencing him to 13 years minus the time he had already spent in custody.

After the sentencing, Mr. Sudjatmiko said, "We reject the verdicts, as the court does not have the legitimacy to sentence us."

The other eight defendants received prison sentences ranging from 18 months to 12 years. Last week, three People's Democratic Party activists in Indonesia's second-largest city, Surabaya, were sentenced to between four and six years in prison on the same charges. Two other defendants are still on trial.

"The message to the community is clear," said Bambang Widjojantoa, a lawyer with the independent Legal Aid Institute. "Whoever has a different opinion from the government and who is thought to be behind events will be heavily punished." *(AFP, Reuters, AP)*

John MacDougall/Agence France-Presse

Budiman Sudjatmiko, leader of the People's Democratic Party, center, being escorted from court before he was sentenced to prison Monday.

Italy Communists Back in Limelight

Prodi Group Needs to Court Them

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

ROME — As it struggles to keep a year-old promise to make Italy eligible for the start of European monetary union, the last thing Prime Minister Romano Prodi's center-left government needs is more proof of its dependence on a minority party of uninhibited Communists.

But that's what it got in scattered municipal elections held Sunday throughout the country, including Milan and Turin, the urban twins of the Italian industrial north. In both cities, the candidates from Mr. Prodi's Olive Tree coalition were trailing their rivals on the right, and could win run-offs to be held May 11 only by courting the votes of the Refounded Communist Party.

"Now the Refounded Communist Party will be the determinant," said Fausto Bertinotti, the party leader known for his strong rhetoric. "Without us, the Olive Tree will go to its death."

In several medium-sized cities, including Siena, Ravenna and others where leftist candidates did well, their lead could be attributed to a pre-election coalition between the Refounded Communist Party and the Olive Tree coalition. The biggest loser in the voting Sunday was the Northern League, the secessionist party, which lost Milan city hall after a stormy four-year stint under Marco Formentini.

Even before the election, the Refounded Communist Party, a splinter party that held its ideological ground in 1991 when Italy's mainstream Communist Party changed its name and moved to the center, had maneuvered itself into a key position.

Although it won less than 9 percent of the vote in national elections last year, its parliamentary deputies — who number 34 out of 630 in the lower chamber — are the swing vote for the government on major policy issues. Earlier this spring, Mr. Bertinotti succeeded in publicly humiliating the Prodi government by refusing to back its multinational mission in Albania.

But the key test for the Prodi government lies ahead as it tries to tackle the generous social spending programs — mainly health care and pensions — that Italy needs to trim if it is to be among the first countries to join the European single currency in 1999.

Since he took office almost a year ago, Mr. Prodi, an economics professor who once managed Italy's largest state holding company, has said over and over again that he would resign if he failed to bring Italy into monetary union in 1999. Until now, he has been able to count on the strong pro-European sentiments historically shared by Italians. But his single-mindedness has begun to annoy even his supporters, particularly now that they have seen their paychecks reduced by his "Euro-tax," a one-year revenue-raising measure

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Germans Begin to Accept a Changing Face

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — When Cem Ozdemir entered the German Bundestag in 1994, the event was hailed as more than a personal triumph.

The 30-year-old Green Party member, who was born in a Black Forest village but did not acquire a German passport until he was 18, became the first Turkish German to be elected to Parliament.

Unlike his family and friends, Mr. Ozdemir saw nothing special in breaking one of the country's most enduring political barriers.

"I just thought it was time to stand up and declare that millions like me should play a role in this democracy," he said in an interview. "One out of every five babies are born to foreigners, so it should be obvious a future Germany will be represented by people from different ethnic backgrounds."

To a degree that alarms some politicians, the human face of Germany is changing rapidly. Indeed, Mr. Ozdemir's election is just one of many signs that the homogeneous, blue-eyed-blond image once nurtured by this nation of 80 million is being supplanted by something more diverse.

The wave of guest workers who began migrating from Italy, Greece and Turkey nearly four decades ago to help resurrect Germany's economy from the ashes of World War II has been augmented since the fall of the Berlin Wall by a huge influx of Poles, Iranians, Yugoslavs and Russians. In the last decade, the number of foreigners — meaning everyone of non-German ancestry regardless of country of birth — living in Germany has nearly doubled, to 7.2 million, or 9 percent of the population.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl insists that Germany must not become an immigrant nation like the United States. The Bonn government has taken measures to close a porous frontier that borders eight countries. It has curtailed one of the world's most liberal asylum policies, discouraged the resettlement of ethnic Ger-

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AGENDA

Dollar Rises Despite Warning From G-7

LONDON — The dollar on Monday elbowed aside weekend warnings from the governments of the world's seven largest economies that its two-year increase had run just about far enough.

The U.S. currency rose Monday against the Deutsche mark and the yen despite fresh warnings from Hans Tietmeyer, the president of the Bundesbank, and Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka of Japan.

Most currency traders said they thought the dollar had further to go and that the G-7 would be powerless to stop it. Page 11.

The Dollar		
New York	Monday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.7328	1.7274
Pound	1.6247	1.6245
Yen	126.895	126.30
FF	5.84	5.8295

The Dow		
	Monday close	previous close
+44.15	6783.02	6738.87

S&P 500		
change	Monday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
+7.6	772.97	765.37

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Kuwait	600 Fils	Zimbabwe	Zim.$30.00

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Coming Soon: Brave New World of Digital Viewing

By Paul Farhi
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The television set of the near future may be the one sitting outside Jim McKinney's office. It's as big as a refrigerator tipped on its side, and has a rectangular screen that provides breathtakingly sharp images.

Or it may turn out to be something like the personal computer sitting in Craig Mundie's office. It could give lower-quality pictures, but could bring users some impressive other features — like instant bios of TV stars while the show airs, or a batter's statistics during a crucial baseball game. It also could supply a daily electronic newspaper or function as a mail-order catalogue.

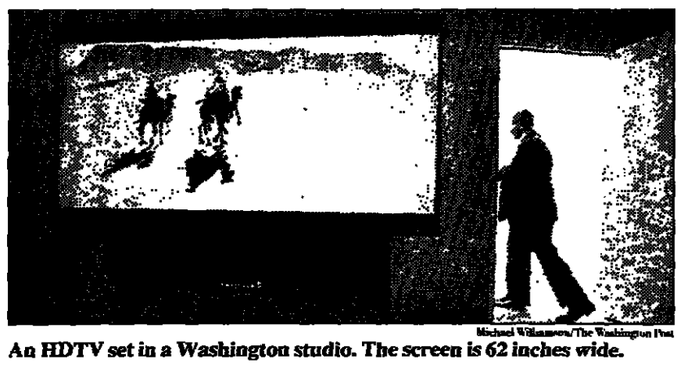
Either way, there's no question that television is about to change. After 10 wearying years of debate and testing, the U.S. government opened the door for a new kind of broadcasting — "digital" broadcasting — earlier this month. A similar shift in broadcasting standards is under way in Asia and Europe.

In the United States, the Federal Communications Commission gave each of the 1,600 U.S. TV stations a second channel over which to transmit programs and other information in digital form, the computer language that has become the lingua franca of modern communications. The industry predicts that digital broadcasts will start in some cities in about 18 months.

But it is still not clear what form digital broadcasts will take, or what kind of sets viewers will use to receive them.

About all that is certain is that the 250 million televisions now in use nationwide won't be up to the job. They will have to be replaced or outfitted with special converter boxes that industry executives said will cost from $50 to $200.

The big television outside Mr. McKinney's office is a prototype of a "high-definition" set, which people would have to buy to receive the sharpest possible pictures. Mr. McKinney, a TV station manager in Washington, D.C., rigs up a demonstration to show what this means; on the 62-inch (157 centimeter) HDTV set, "Lawrence of Arabia" looks as good as it did on any movie theater screen. Commercial ver-



Michael Williamson/The Washington Post

An HDTV set in a Washington studio. The screen is 62 inches wide.

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Conduct Unbecoming? Sex Code Puts a Strain on U.S. Military

By Tamara Jones
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — On the morning of her court-martial, Lieutenant Colonel Karen Tew pinned the ribbons to her dress uniform and packed a suitcase for jail. She knew she could be facing up to 10 years behind bars.

In the courtroom that day, she wept as she entered her guilty plea, wondering aloud what would happen to her two teenage daughters and elderly parents. She apologized for bringing disgrace to the U.S. Air Force. "No words can describe the shame and humiliation I feel as a result of my actions," declared the 41-year-old career officer. The jury sentenced Colonel Tew to dismissal. Barely a year short of retirement, she would lose everything — her job, her pension, her benefits and the only way of life she had known as an adult.

Colonel Tew's crime was uniquely military: She had had an affair with an enlisted man. Estranged from her husband, she had committed adultery.

Five days after the March 11 trial at Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, Illinois, Colonel Tew waited for her parents to leave for church, then put a shotgun between her eyes and pulled the trigger. Her suicide raised questions about the private lives of America's servicemen and women, and their accountability in a military culture that considers order, discipline and integrity key to its survival.

Like Colonel Tew, a growing number of soldiers are facing felony criminal charges for love affairs that, in civilian life, would break no law. But with renewed emphasis on a more family-oriented service and the embarrassing legacy of sex-abuse scandals, the Pentagon appears to be cracking down on adultery and related offenses. But it is not just allegations of pandemic sexual misconduct, such as those at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, that are attracting prosecutors' attention. Private affairs between consenting heterosexual adults are also ending up before the jury.

In the air force alone, the number of people put on trial for adultery more than quadrupled in the last decade, from 16 in 1987 to 67 last year; the

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A Vietnamese Reporter's Double Life / **Time Correspondent and Vietcong Officer**

At Hanoi's Insistence, the Spy Skips a Reunion

By Robert D. McFadden
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — He was a familiar figure at the military briefings and diplomatic affairs in wartime Saigon, a wiry Vietnamese reporter who seemed to know everything and everyone. He had great sources, his analyses of Vietnam's labyrinth political intrigues were astute and he shared information and insights with his American colleagues, many of whom regarded him as a kind of sage.

He had gone to college in California, and his enthusiasm for America seemed boundless. He was so well-connected that some correspondents thought he worked for the CIA. Eventually, Time magazine, for which he worked 10 years, made him a full staff correspondent, the only Vietnamese to be accorded that distinction by a major U.S. news organization.

Once, the story went around, he mysteriously secured the release of an American reporter who had been captured in Cambodia. And as Communist forces closed in on Saigon in 1975, he sent his wife and four children to the United States — they returned to Vietnam a year later — and risked his life to get Vietnamese who had worked for the Americans out on the last helicopter from the roof of the U.S. Embassy. But he stayed behind.

It was only after the war that Frank McCulloch of Time magazine, Stanley Karnow of The Washington Post, David Halberstam of The New York Times, Morley Safer of CBS News and other correspondents learned that their colleague, Pham Xuan An, had all along been a secret agent for Hanoi: a colonel in the army of North Vietnam.

Three decades after a conflict whose passions reduced all understanding to black and white, some of these correspondents gathered Monday with veterans and diplomats at the Asia Society in New York to discuss the legacy of Vietnam. Mr. An, 69, now a retired general in Ho Chi Minh City, was not there. He accepted an invitation but sent word Sunday that he could not come.

In a letter to the organizers, Mr. An spoke of the need to help heal the mental and physical wounds of the war and of his regret at not being able to see those with whom he had worked long ago. It did not say why he would not come. But the organizers said they learned late last week that he had been refused an exit visa by the Vietnamese government.

And that is regrettable, say some of the former correspondents, who regard him as a friend. For as they tell it, the story of Pham Xuan An — a tale of intrigue, of divided loyalties and friendship between enemies, of acts of courage with lives saved or snuffed out — may be one of the keys to understanding the tumultuous war years and Vietnam in the 1990s.

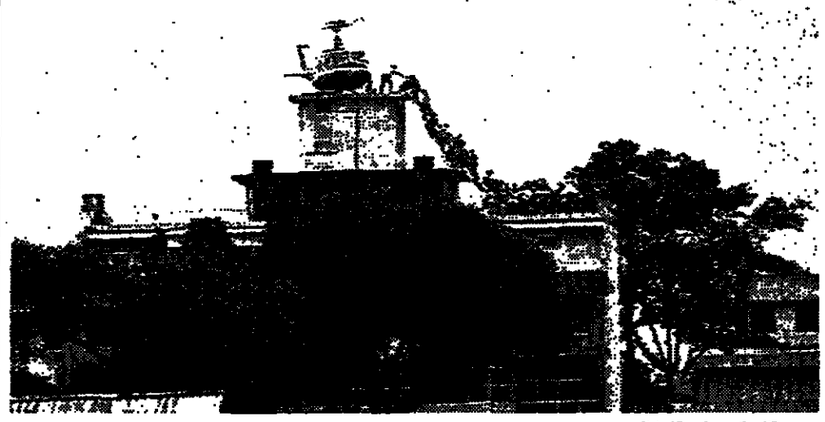
"An was torn between two loyalties," said Mr. Karnow, who won the 1990 Pulitzer Prize for history for his book, "In Our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines."

"His loyalty in the case of America was to his colleagues," Mr. Karnow said. "His loyalty to Vietnam was to his nation. He felt he was doing his patriotic duty by being an agent, but we were his friends and he had great admiration for the United States, and I think he was a torn person."

Mr. McCulloch, Time's Saigon bureau chief in the war years, said of Mr. An's dual loyalties: "It tore him up. But I've never resented it. If circumstances had been reversed, if hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese had occupied my land, I would probably have done the same thing. I've never had any ideological or political animus. To my knowledge he never warped his reporting. He remains a good and highly respected friend."

Mr. Safer agreed, and he rebuked Hanoi — a regime that recently established full diplomatic relations with the United States, says it wants reconciliation and actively seeks Western investment, business and tourism — for refusing a visa to a man who risked his life for years to give Hanoi information on its enemy's military activities and behind-the-scenes politics in the South.

"The irony is that he is a patriot, a nationalist," said Mr. Safer, who wrote a chapter about Mr. An in his 1990 book, "Flashbacks: On Returning to Vietnam."



United Press International/Bettmann

As Communist forces closed in on Saigon in 1975, Mr. An risked his life to get Vietnamese who had worked for the Americans out on the last helicopter from the roof of the U.S. Embassy. But he stayed behind.

"He has done his best to follow his conscience and for this they apparently regard him as a dangerous character."

As planned some weeks ago, Mr. Karnow and Mr. Safer, along with Mr. Halberstam, the author-journalist who won the 1964 Pulitzer Prize for his Vietnam reporting and left The New York Times in 1967, and Robert Muller, president of Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation, were to have been joined by Mr. An in a forum on Vietnam's legacy and future before 300 guests Monday at the Asia Society.

The discussion is one of a series of events, including an exchange visit of American and Vietnamese doctors this summer and a 17-day Hanoi-to-Ho Chi Minh City bicycle trip for hundreds of international riders, many of them disabled Vietnam veterans, next January, being sponsored by World Team Sports, an international group based in North Carolina.

Stephen Whisnant, executive director of World Team Sports, said that a plane ticket had been sent and preparations made for Mr. An, who is frail but in good health, to visit New York. But Mr. Whisnant said he was informed last week that Hanoi had refused to grant an exit visa. No reason was given.

Much of Mr. An's story was related to Mr. Safer in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, in 1989, while Mr. Karnow learned parts of it in more recent visits with Mr. An in Vietnam. "Like a lot of other Vietnamese, he got into the Vietminh when he was a kid," Mr. Karnow said.

It was in 1944, when he was 16, that Mr. An and most of his classmates joined the Communist national liberation movement known as the Vietminh. (Years later, South Vietnam would call it the Vietcong, pejoratively.) In those early years, as the Vietminh fought first against the Japanese occupiers in World War II and later against the French, Mr. An was little more than a courier.

After the French defeat in 1954 and the country's partition into North and South Vietnam, Mr. An joined the South Vietnamese Army and was later assigned to work with Colonel Edward Lansdale, the CIA operative who conducted a clandestine campaign of sabotage and rumor for Saigon against Hanoi and the Vietminh.

Mr. An thus became a double-agent loyal to the Vietminh.

In 1956, he left the army and went to California, where he enrolled at Fullerton College on a State Department scholarship. He worked on the school newspaper, had an internship at The Sacramento Bee and traveled around the United States, staying often in private homes.

Returning to Saigon in 1957, he became a part-time correspondent for The Associated Press and later for Reuters. He also resumed work for the Vietminh.

"The real work started in 1960, when I was working for Reuters," Mr. An told Mr. Safer. "I held the rank of regimental commander. I never wore a uniform of course. I never carried a weapon."

By the mid-1960s, as U.S. involvement in Vietnam deepened, the news media assigned staff correspondents to Saigon, and the press corps grew into a throng. Many of the Americans hired Vietnamese assistants for language skills and other guidance, and Mr. An, who stood out, was hired by Mr. McCulloch.

Mr. An was in his late 30s, a slender, engaging man with a good sense of humor and a good sense of news as Americans saw it. He had an open intellectual face and innocent experienced eyes behind horn-rim glasses. American reporters, especially the newcomers, took to him, and he briefed them on Vietnamese politics and the military picture.

His persona, Mr. McCulloch said, was that of an American-educated, very conservative Vietnamese from a well-to-do Mekong Delta family that had lost its landholdings to the Communists.

As the war expanded in the 1960s, his connections seemed astonishing. He was one of a few Vietnamese reporters allowed to attend off-the-record U.S. military briefings. He went to diplomatic functions in Saigon and traveled the country, to Quang Tri and Hue in the north, to Nha Trang on the South China Sea, gathering material for Time — and for the Vietminh, in greater detail.

"I had access to all the Vietnamese bases and their commanders," Mr. An recalled for Mr. Safer. "My superiors wanted to know the strengths of various units. They wanted estimates of the capabilities of commanders — who was corrupt and who was corruptible. They wanted all the political stuff, the same stuff you guys wanted."

Beyond access to the briefings and bases, Mr. McCulloch said, "Time's bureau must have been a priceless listening post. Everything came through it. You had political reporters saying what was and what was not happening. You had combat people scoffing at body counts, saying it was not 700 killed, it was 20."

Mr. McCulloch, who left Time in 1972 and retired from a long news career six years ago, said he never saw Mr. An distort reports for Time. Mr. Safer quoted Mr. An as saying he never planted stories or engaged in disinformation. Doing so might have compromised his secret identity.

Mr. An, who sometimes disappeared for days, was debriefed by Vietminh agents in Saigon and in the Ho Bo Forest, 16 kilometers (10 miles) northwest. He said he encouraged rumors that he worked for the CIA to enhance his cover.

A colonel at war's end, Mr. An was eventually promoted to general. His oldest son, Hoang, studied English at the Pushkin Institute in Moscow and for several years studied political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with expenses quietly paid by some of Mr. An's former news media colleagues in Saigon. The son is now an official of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, an aid-provider said.

Mr. Karnow, who has written numerous books of history, said he regarded Mr. An's loyalty to the Vietminh as an expression of the intense nationalism of a people who have fought foreign invaders for thousands of years. He also said he did not believe Mr. An had feigned affection for his colleagues or America.

Huge Parade Hails Saddam On His 60th

Reuters

TIKRIT, Iraq — Tens of thousands of Iraqis paraded Monday in President Saddam Hussein's hometown, marking his 60th birthday with pledges to stay loyal to him.

The crowd walked past the reviewing stand on the outskirts of Tikrit, 170 kilometers (105 miles) north of Baghdad, shouting "With our blood, with our soul, we shall defend you, Saddam!".

The display of loyalty was one of many held throughout the country except for Kurdish areas, which have been outside Mr. Saddam's control since the Gulf War over Kuwait in 1991.

The parade in Tikrit was attended by almost all Iraqi leaders except Mr. Saddam, who remains in power despite the ruinous war and punitive trade sanctions imposed by the United Nations for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Izzat Ibrahim, vice president of the Revolutionary Command Council, presided over the ceremonies in Tikrit, which in recent years have been turned into one of Iraq's national festivals.

Young girls wearing Arab and Kurdish costumes danced and sang a birthday song: "Happy birthday to you, Saddam, you are the beloved of millions."

Military groups paraded in front of Mr. Ibrahim while formations of air force planes and helicopter gunships flew over the agricultural town. The celebrations lasted two hours.

Iraqi radio and television aired special programs and during the breaks, a choir of young girls and boys sang: "Happy birthday to you, Papa Saddam."

■ U.S. Opposition Firm

The United States sees no alternative to maintaining sanctions against Iraq as long as President Saddam remains in power, a former U.S. aide said Monday, Reuters reported from Cyprus.

Robert Pelletreau, a former assistant secretary of state, said that U.S. policymakers believed the Iraqi Army would soon be back on the borders of Kuwait should the sanctions be removed or the United States reduced its own military posture in the Gulf.

"With the current Iraqi government ruthlessly and resiliently maintaining power" in Baghdad "and with mistrust and lack of cohesion among various elements of the opposition, the United States sees no practical alternative to maintaining the box around Baghdad as tightly as possible," Mr. Pelletreau said at an international oil forum.

Winnie Mandela Wins Re-election to ANC Women's Unit

Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — Winnie Madikizela-Mandela easily won re-election as president of the African National Congress Women's League, league officials say.

Despite speculation that President Nelson Mandela's former wife would be voted out because of her style of leadership, she defeated her main opponent and deputy, Thandi Modise, 656 to 114, during a meeting of 1,000 delegates in Rustenburg in North-West Province on Saturday.

A source in the governing African National Congress said her victory proved that she still had a strong following despite scandals that have embarrassed the party and Mr. Mandela.

"Winnie has always been a fighter, and this proves that she is still popular," the source said Sunday.

"There was no serious challenge," the source added, "and the women have democratically chosen Winnie to lead them into the next millennium."

Political analysts said the victory represented a comeback for Mrs. Madikizela-Mandela, 62, from political isolation since her divorce in 1995 from Mr. Mandela, who dismissed her in the same year as deputy arts, culture, science and technology minister after her criticism of his unity government.

Keeping 'Ticketless Travelers' Informed of Their Rights

By Cindy Skrzycki
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Department of Transportation has acted to ensure that airline passengers who have brought electronic tickets are told of their rights and the airlines' liabilities when it comes to lost baggage, overbooked flights, refunds and other issues.

Holders of paper tickets find their rights spelled out on the inside of ticket "jackets" or on the ticket itself.

The Department of Transportation has now spelled out a variety of ways that airlines could convey this information to "ticketless travelers" who make electronic arrangements for travel and may receive only a confirmation number for a flight rather than a traditional paper ticket.

Instead of having to mail the information after an electronic transaction, airlines may provide it at the gate, mention it in a phone conversation with customers, put it on a World Wide Web site or occasionally mail it to frequent fliers.

An earlier Department of Transportation proposal would have had consumers notified of their rights "within a few days after the purchase transaction."

The department's final word says passengers need to be informed "no later than the time that they check in at the airport for the first flight in their itinerary" — a flexibility that the airlines very much wanted.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Orly Faces Disruption

PARIS (AP) — Controllers at Orly airport have called a 24-hour strike Wednesday demanding pay bonuses on days when there is increased air traffic. Colleagues at Charles de Gaulle, Paris's other major airport, already have similar benefits.

Airport authorities, at Orly, which mainly serves France's domestic routes, say they will be able to schedule a minimum of 350 flights of the 800 programmed for Wednesday.

British Airways continued Monday to refuse to use a check-in area at Charles de Gaulle airport pending a court hearing over security involving Air Algerie, a spokesman said. *(AFP)*

British train managers on Eurostar, which runs the high-speed rail service between London, Paris and Brussels, are threatening to begin a series of 24-hour strikes over a pay dispute, unions said Monday. The results of a ballot will be known next month. *(AFP)*

Visitors to Lebanon from the European Union, the United States, Canada, Australia, South Korea and Japan can now get their visas at Beirut airport, seaport or Lebanese border checkpoints, the government said. *(AP)*

New Delhi authorities were ordered by the High Court to produce plans to fight the mosquito-borne dengue fever. Dengue killed 322 people in New Delhi last year, and 12 cases have been confirmed this year. *(AFP)*

The Staten Island Ferry will soon be free. New York's mayor plans to scrap the 50-cent fare. *(AP)*

Dutch Townfolk Take Drug Tourists to Task

Reuters

ROTTERDAM — About 30 Rotterdam residents took the law into their own hands by beating up two French and two Belgian drug tourists and wrecking a car, the Dutch police said Monday.

The disgruntled inhabitants of Spangen, a western suburb of Rotterdam that draws tourists from around the world, attacked the four people in separate incidents Sunday, beating them and destroying a car, the police said.

Spangen residents demonstrated in 1995 against tourists attracted to the Netherlands by the Dutch policy of tolerating the possession of small amounts of "soft drugs."

But the police are taking a hard line toward vigilantes, no matter how angry residents are about the drug houses in their area. "This will absolutely not be tolerated," a police spokeswoman said.

WIN A WEEK FOR TWO IN SPAIN

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Herald Tribune
INTERNATIONAL
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

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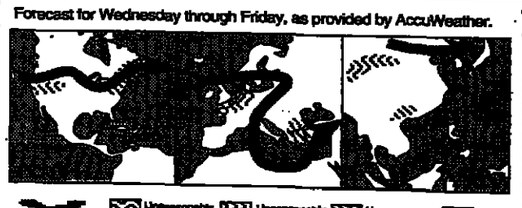
THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

WEATHER

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by AccuWeather.



Jetstream | Unseasonably Cold | Unseasonably Mild | Heavy Rain | Heavy Snow

North America
Mild with some sunshine in Philadelphia and New York Wednesday, but rain is likely Thursday into Friday. A storm moving out of the Midwest Wednesday will bring soaking rains into the Appalachians. Sunny, dry and warm in the Southwest. Thunderstorms are likely in the Southeast.

Europe
Partly to mostly sunny and pleasant in London and Paris Wednesday through Friday. Partly sunny and nice in Berlin, but cooler with showers Friday. Sunny and warm in Spain and northern Italy, but southern Italy will have showers. Rain will soak the Balkans, western Turkey and Greece.

Asia
Sunny and very warm in Beijing Wednesday; it may shower Thursday, then become cooler Friday. Mild in Tokyo Wednesday, but it may shower. Dry and cooler Thursday, then mild with sun Friday. Sun sunny and very warm over western China, while the southeast will be warm and humid with a few showers.

Europe

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Algarve	26/82	19/66 s	23/84	15/64 s
Amsterdam	13/55	7/44 r	14/57	10/50 c
Ankara	11/52	7/44 r	13/55	4/39 r
Athens	14/57	11/52 r	15/59	10/50 r
Barcelona	23/73	9/48 s	18/66	12/53 s
Belgrade	19/66	10/50 r	21/70	9/48 c
Berlin	15/61	9/48 r	17/62	8/46 sh
Brussels	12/53	8/46 r	14/57	10/50 c
Budapest	17/62	10/50 r	18/64	9/48 sh
Copenhagen	13/55	9/48 r	13/55	6/43 c
Costa Del Sol	28/84	17/62 pc	27/80	16/61 s
Dublin	15/59	12/53 pc	16/61	13/55 c
Edinburgh	15/59	7/44 c	16/61	12/53 sh
Florence	22/71	11/52 pc	22/71	10/50 pc
Frankfurt	16/61	8/46 r	17/62	7/44 sh
Geneva	11/52	6/43 r	15/59	7/44 sh
Helsinki	11/52	4/39 c	8/46	0/32 sh
Istanbul	13/55	9/48 sh	14/57	9/48 r
Kiev	10/61	6/43 s	19/51	7/44 s
Las Palmas	25/79	21/70 s	27/80	21/70 s
Lisbon	28/79	19/66 s	28/82	20/68 s
London	17/62	8/46 c	18/64	13/55 c
Madrid	29/79	8/46 pc	29/78	11/52 s
Mallorca	20/68	11/52 s	18/64	13/55 s
Milan	21/70	10/50 c	21/70	9/48 c
Moscow	15/59	4/39 s	17/62	7/44 s
Munich	12/53	7/44 r	13/55	6/43 r
Nice	20/68	11/52 pc	21/70	12/53 pc
Oslo	9/48	5/41 r	14/57	7/44 c
Paris	13/55	7/44 c	16/61	10/50 c
Prague	13/55	6/43 r	18/61	6/43 c
Reykjavik	8/46	3/37 c	7/44	3/37 r
Riga	15/59	10/50 r	18/64	9/48 sh
Rome	19/66	10/50 pc	18/64	8/46 c
St. Petersburg	11/52	8/46 r	9/48	5/41 r
Stockholm	7/44	5/41 r	7/44	1/34 r
Strasbourg	12/53	9/48 r	15/59	7/44 sh
Tallinn	11/52	4/39 c	8/46	1/34 sh
Tbilisi	18/64	5/41 sh	19/66	11/52 r
Venice	18/64	11/52 r	19/66	10/50 pc
Vienna	14/57	10/50 r	17/62	9/48 sh
Warsaw	19/66	9/48 pc	18/64	9/48 r
Zurich	11/52	8/46 r	12/53	7/44 r

Middle East

Abu Dhabi	38/89	21/70 s	34/93	20/68 s
Beirut	14/57	10/50 pc	18/64	13/55 s
Cairo	34/75	13/53 pc	30/86	16/64 pc
Damascus	17/62	4/39 pc	24/75	8/46 s
Jerusalem	17/62	5/41 pc	22/71	8/46 s
Luxor	32/89	14/57 s	36/97	16/64 s
Riyadh	34/93	17/62 s	34/93	18/68 s

North America

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Anchorage	9/48	3/37 c	11/52	2/35 pc
Atlanta	22/71	11/52 pc	25/79	14/57 pc
Boston	18/61	7/44 s	17/62	11/52 pc
Chicago	21/70	9/48 s	18/66	7/44 sh
Dallas	28/84	18/64 s	28/82	14/57 pc
Denver	13/55	1/34 sh	19/64	4/39 pc
Detroit	21/70	8/46 s	21/70	8/46 sh
Honolulu	28/82	21/70 pc	29/84	23/71 pc
Houston	29/84	19/66 s	29/84	17/62 pc
Los Angeles	23/73	12/53 s	26/78	13/55 pc
Miami	29/84	20/68 pc	30/86	23/73 pc
Minneapolis	17/62	7/44 pc	17/62	8/41 sh
Montreal	12/53	7/44 c	17/62	9/48 s
Nassau	31/88	23/73 c	32/89	23/73 pc
New York	20/68	8/46 s	20/68	11/52 pc
Orlando	29/84	17/62 s	30/86	18/64 pc
Phoenix	31/88	18/64 s	34/93	18/64 s
San Fran.	19/66	11/52 pc	20/68	10/50 pc
Seattle	15/59	8/46 c	19/66	8/41 sh
Toronto	14/57	6/43 pc	19/64	8/46 pc
Vancouver	11/52	3/37 c	11/52	4/39 sh
Washington	21/70	11/52 s	23/73	13/55 pc

Asia

	Today High	Today Low/W	Tomorrow High	Tomorrow Low/W
	C/F	C/F	C/F	C/F
Almaty	31/88	16/61 s	31/88	16/61 pc
Bali	33/89	23/73 pc	33/89	23/71 pc
Bangkok	33/91	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Beijing	29/79	7/44 s	29/79	10/48 s
Bombay	35/91	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 s
Calcutta	32/89	22/71 pc	33/91	21/70 s
Cheiang Mai	33/91	23/71 pc	33/91	23/71 pc
Colombo	30/86	23/73 pc	31/88	23/73 pc
Hanoi	28/82	23/71 c	27/80	23/73 c
Ho Chi Minh	33/91	24/75 sh	33/91	24/75 pc
Hong Kong	28/79	21/70 c	28/79	21/70 pc
Islamabad	35/95	18/64 pc	34/93	19/66 pc
Jakarta	32/89	24/75 r	30/86	23/73 r
Karachi	31/88	19/66 s	31/88	22/71 pc
K. Lumpur	32/89	23/73 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
K. Kinabalu	29/84	23/71 r	31/88	21/70 sh
Manila	33/91	21/70 s	32/89	23/73 pc
New Delhi	35/95	19/66 pc	36/100	22/71 s
Phnom Penh	32/89	22/71 c	33/91	23/73 pc
Pusan	33/91	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 pc
Rangoon	32/91	23/73 pc	33/91	23/73 pc
Seoul	19/66	8/46 r	19/66	8/46 c
Shanghai	27/80	18/64 pc	24/75	13/55 pc
Singapore	30/86	22/71 r	31/88	23/71 pc
Taipei	28/82	21/70 c	29/84	21/70 pc
Tokyo	24/75	18/64 s	23/73	16/61 pc
Vientiane	28/82	22/71 c	27/80	23/73 c

Africa

Algiers	23/73	9/48 pc	21/70	8/46 s
Cape Town	21/70	10/50 s	25/77	11/52 pc
Casablanca	25/84	13/55 s	30/86	13/55 s
Harare	29/84	11/52 s	31/88	11/52 s
Lagos	29/84	22/71 pc	29/84	22/71 pc
Nairobi	27/80	13/55 pc	27/80	13/55 pc
Tunis	19/66	9/48 c	19/66	8/46 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	22/71	12/53 pc	23/73	13/55 pc
Caracas	28/82	23/73 c	30/86	23/73 pc
Lima	24/75	18/64 pc	24/75	17/62 pc
Mexico City	24/75	12/53 s	22/80	13/55 pc
Rio de Janeiro	25/77	18/64 c	23/73	18/64 pc
Santiago	23/73	10/50 pc	17/62	4/39 pc

Oceania

Auckland	19/66	12/53 pc	19/64	10/50 s
Sydney	23/73	14/57 s	22/71	14/57 s

Legends: p-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1997

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THE AMERICAS

Bump in the Road for Term Limits

Will California Ruling Slow Effort to Throw Out Veteran Politicians?

By B. Drummond Ayres Jr.
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When a federal judge last week overturned California's tough law limiting how long state legislators can hold office, it marked a rare obstacle in the efforts nationwide to force out career politicians.

Although members of Congress continue to resist setting term limits for themselves, 20 states have imposed such restrictions on their legislatures in recent years. A huge turnover of state lawmakers is now well under way.

One of California's legislative houses is filled entirely with members who were elected since the state's term limits law passed in 1990. If voters substitute the current law with a legally defensible measure, term limits could continue to stir the state's political pot.

Term limits have been successful at bringing new faces into politics. Less clear is whether they are making any practical difference.

Proponents of the new laws promised greater accountability to voters and an end to closed-door, old-boy networks. And the newcomers, brimming with reformist hopes and impatient with traditional procedures and stilted political politesse, are indeed a switch from the entrenched veterans they are replacing. In particular, there are more women and more members of minorities present than ever before.

For the moment, however, the newcomers are mostly demonstrating their inexperience.

In the few legislatures where many newcomers have taken office, like the California Assembly and the Maine House and Senate, some new legislators have risen in a matter of months to leadership positions that traditionally have taken years to secure. While they are guiding some bills to passage, there often seems to be more drift than action.

Proponents had argued that term limits, besides ridding legislatures of career politicians, would also weaken the influence of lobbyists with strong ties to the veterans. But while veterans are being pushed out, many are simply moving over to the legislative chamber on the other side of the Capitol, running for Congress or seeking appointive jobs.

While lobbyists have lost some contacts, they are countering by expanding their ranks and increasing efforts to get to know new members.

Lynne Leach, a Republican assemblywoman from Walnut Creek, California, is one of the newly arrived replacements in Sacramento, the state capital. Until encouraged by the new term limits law to run for public office, she was content to work as a business consultant, though now and again what was happening in Sacramento, or not happening, nagged at her.

"I saw the chance to do something about something I had been displeased with for a long time," she said. "The others have had their chance. Now it's our turn. We come in with a fresh eye and fresh energy. Yes, it's confusing for us at times and we get a bit lost. But I believe we'll do a better job in the end."

California voters in 1990 approved a lifetime limit of three two-year terms in the Assembly and two four-year terms in the Senate.

But the future of term limits in the state is now up in the air. A federal judge last week overturned the law, calling the lifetime ban a "severe burden on the right of its citizens to vote for candidates of their choice." Six other states impose lifetime bans.

California legislators are considering whether to put a new measure, without a lifetime prohibition, on the ballot.

The impact of term limits in California already has been profound. All 80 members of the California Assembly were elected since voters approved the law, and some of those will be leaving as early as next year. Before term limits, the average Assembly member had eight years of experience, and one who had held office for six years was considered ready for a leadership post.

The new Assembly speaker, Cruz Bustamante, a Democrat, has been in elective office for four years, about a third of the experience that some of his predecessors had when they took over the top job.

One of the committee chairmen Mr. Bustamante appointed three months ago has only just held that committee's first meeting. On the Assembly floor, there has thus far been a two-hour debate on a resolution to adjourn in memory of Notorious B.I.G., the murdered rapper, but hardly any debate, or voting, on bills of governmental substance.

When the leader of the California Senate, Bill Lockyer, a Democrat, looked around recently for a passed Assembly bill to which he could attach a quick piece of Senate business, he found none.

"It was just some housekeeping stuff that we needed to rush through," he recalled. "But there was no vehicle available. They hadn't accomplished a thing over there in weeks. Term limits? I've been around here the better part of 25 years — got to leave myself in 1998 — and I can't see the progress."

Andy Clark/Reuters

CANADA CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF — Jean Charest, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, standing in the door of his bus in Ottawa before the federal election campaign, which started Monday.

AMERICAN TOPICS

A Washington Isle Plugs In, Drives Off

Earlier than most, inhabitants of Orcas Island, off the coast of northwest Washington, have tasted the future, and in many ways it is as sweet as the boosters of electric vehicles had promised. They are clean, quiet and cheap to run; with the island's mild winters, expensive gasoline and green-minded residents, it seemed the ideal setting for battery-powered cars, notes The New York Times.

But even with what local officials say is the highest ratio of electric cars to traditional ones in the country, the verdict is that such cars remain a thing of the future. Part of a federal program to test the vehicles, the county that includes Orcas Island now has one electric vehicle for every 750 noncommercial vehicles.

But the same obstacles apply here as elsewhere. The cars' range is short — a newer GM model has a 90-mile (145-kilometer) range — and original purchase prices are two to three times those of other cars. For now, even on Orcas Island, the majority of residents are saying, "We'll think about it."

Short Takes

One hundred years after President Ulysses S. Grant was interred with ceremony befitting the Civil War hero that he was, 3,000 people gathered Sunday to rededicate his restored tomb on a bluff over the Hudson River in New York. The granite mausoleum was long a major landmark, drawing 500,000 visitors annually before official neglect allowed it to deteriorate. In 1993, a Columbia University student and volunteer worker at the tomb, Frank Scaturro, wrote a scathing report that accused the National Park Service of having allowed the site to become a haven for drug users and vandals. The agency dismissed the unpaid Mr. Scaturro. But after outraged family members threatened a lawsuit to move the bodies of Grant and his wife elsewhere, the government spent $1.8 million to clean the site. Family members say they are pleased. And Grant will remain in Grant's Tomb.

Delegates from Unitarian Universalist churches in five Southeastern states have voted to continue calling their region the Thomas Jefferson District. They had considered changing the name because Jefferson owned more than 130 slaves. Over the weekend, 75 of 126 delegates, from North and South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia, voted to drop the name, but that was short of the required two-thirds majority.

You would think that the sponsors of Take Our Daughters to Work Day, which has spread rapidly across the country in recent years, would have resented a countercampaign in New York called Don't Take Our Daughters to Work. But no. The counter-campaign, organized by a clothing union, is intended to send the message to garment workers that child labor is often dangerous and illegal. The union has focused its campaign on two Chinese-American neighborhoods in New York where garment factories flourish and conditions can be tough. The Ms. Foundation, sponsors of the original Take Our Daughters campaign, supports the new effort to end exploitation, said its president, Marie Wilson. "This day is all about respecting your daughter," she said, "and that's what this program does."

International Herald Tribune

POLITICAL NOTES

Democrats Reassure Donors They're Backing a Winner

MIAMI — Democratic Party leaders have reassured top campaign donors that the future is bright despite the party's large debt and reports of campaign-finance abuses.

Several party leaders said that finding candidates was easier this time, but the Senate minority leader, Tom Daschle, conceded that the fund-raising dispute was far from over and that some Democrats were reluctant to become candidates.

The council is made up of 2,000 business people who backed the party last year. Each member must give at least $10,000 to qualify. Companies or political action committees must give at least $15,000.

With debts over $12 million, the Democrats need to energize the group for another election cycle.

But many donors may be edgy about bad publicity. "There is some need to apologize to donors who are understandably embarrassed," said Senator Robert Torricelli of New Jersey. *(AP)*

Republican Pollster Rebuked

WASHINGTON — Frank Luntz, pollster, political strategist and one of the chief architects of the Republicans' "Contract With America" in 1994, has been formally rebuked by the leading professional polling association.

The executive council of the American Association for Public Opinion Research criticized Mr. Luntz for refusing to disclose the wording of poll questions and other details about surveys he conducted in 1994 for the Republican Party.

Before the elections that year, Mr. Luntz said his polls showed strong public support for all of the provisions of the contract but balked when he was asked for details about how those surveys were conducted.

"When researchers make public arguments based on their research data, then refuse to say how their research was conducted, that harms the public debate on issues and reduces the credibility of all survey and public opinion research," said Diane Colasanto, the association's president.

Like many political pollsters, Mr. Luntz is not a member of the association. *(WP)*

Gingrich Tapers Fined $1,000

WASHINGTON — A Florida couple were fined $500 each for illegally intercepting a telephone conference call between the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, and other House Republican leaders.

John and Alice Martin of Fort White, Florida, pleaded guilty to charges that they intentionally intercepted the call on Dec. 21, the day that Mr. Gingrich's agreement to admit that he had violated House ethics rules was made public.

They faced maximum fines of $5,000 each. *(WP)*

Quote/Unquote

Brooke Shields, an actress, speaking after a broken TelePrompTer forced former President George Bush to throw away his speech and ad-lib to volunteers at the Presidents' Summit for America's Future: "I agree with everything you didn't get a chance to say." *(AP)*

Away From Politics

• **Human remains found at the site of the crash of a U.S.** Air Force jet near Vail, Colorado, have been identified as those of Captain Craig Button, the pilot who flew 800 miles off course before going down, the air force said. The identification was made through DNA testing. Teams are still looking for the four 500-pound bombs that were aboard the jet. *(AP)*

• **The judge who presided over O.J. Simpson's civil case** denied Mr. Simpson's request for a new trial and called the $33.5 million in damages awarded to the plaintiffs "reasonable." Superior Court Judge Hiroshi Fujisaki said he found no validity to defense claims of juror misconduct or arguments that Mr. Simpson would be unable to pay. *(AP)*

• **A $100,000 reward** offered in the unsolved slaying of JonBenet Ramsey, a 6-year-old beauty queen who was found in her parents' Colorado home in December, was renewed in a newspaper ad. The reward was initially offered in early January, with $50,000 put up by the Ramseys and $50,000 offered by The Globe tabloid newspaper. *(AP)*

Architect of the Peru Rescue

A Shadowy Figure Close to Fujimori Emerges

By Clifford Krauss
New York Times Service

Information is emerging indicating that a shadowy figure who is the unofficial head of Peruvian intelligence was the chief planner for the assault last week that rescued 71 hostages at the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, several specialists on Peruvian affairs say.

The man, Ivan Vladimiro Montesinos, a cashiered army captain, former lawyer for drug barons and the alter ego of President Alberto Fujimori for the past five years, is a figure who inspires fear and fascination in Peru.

Like a good spy — one who has long been reported to have ties to the Central Intelligence Agency — Mr. Montesinos had appeared before news cameras only once in several years.

So when he strode triumphantly, wearing dark glasses, with the army chief of staff into the liberated Japanese compound Wednesday, followed by a television camera crew, it was a sign that he had emerged as an even stronger figure in Peru.

Mr. Montesinos took heavy criticism from rivals within the security apparatus for the intelligence breakdown that led to the guerrilla hostage-taking last December. But his brand of secretive authoritarianism may now be politically acceptable again as Mr. Fujimori prepares to run for a third term.

"Montesinos is the man of the hour," said Enrique Obando, a Peruvian specialist on military affairs. "Peruvian sources say he planned the operation, and his public appearance is extraordinary, especially after rumors that he was in political trouble."

Michael Radu, a Peru scholar at the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia, said people "close to Peruvian intelligence" had indicated to him that Mr. Montesinos's intelligence service was responsible for "the basic planning" of the raid.

Noting that the newly constituted 150-man commando unit that conducted the raid was a combination of special units from the police, the army, the navy and the air force, Mr. Radu said, "Montesinos is the only person who could bring these four rival — at times bitterly rival — forces together."

Although the military contributed by far the most commandos for the operation, it has long suffered from a leadership vacuum.

But the appearance of General Nicolas Hermoza Rios, officially head of the armed forces, along with Mr. Montesinos as they reviewed the victorious troops at the Japanese compound appeared to signal a consolidation of the two as participants in Peru's governing troika, along with Mr. Fujimori.

One former American official who worked in Peru said he believed Mr. Montesinos had worked closely with the CIA. The former official, who continues to keep in touch with Peruvian security officials, said Mr. Fujimori had relied heavily on Mr. Montesinos, who he said constantly "nudges" him in a "hardline direction."

Among Mr. Fujimori's advisers, Mr. Montesinos, who is in his 50s, is commonly thought to have been the chief advocate of the president's decision to dissolve Peru's Congress and its supreme court in 1992.

Two Hostages Freed in Texas

Reuters

FORT DAVIS, Texas — Separatists demanding independence for Texas released two hostages Monday in return for having one of their members set free from jail.

The prisoner exchange took some of the heat out of a 12-hour standoff between the self-styled Republic of Texas and the police, but officials said they had not decided whether to withdraw FBI agents from near the group's compound in the Davis Mountains of west Texas.

The crisis began Sunday when Bob Scheidt, the group's "chief of security," was arrested by sheriff's deputies for carrying two assault rifles. Separatist leaders retaliated by taking Joe and Margaret Rowe hostage.

The group's leaders say they believe Texas was annexed illegally in 1845 and claim it should be recognized as an sovereign nation.

A Court Victory for Local Governments

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A deeply divided Supreme Court on Monday made local governments less vulnerable to lawsuits over excessive force used by their police officers, setting aside an $818,000 award against an Oklahoma county.

The 5-to-4 decision also could make it more difficult to sue local governments over other violations of federally protected rights.

The court said that Bryan County was wrongly punished for an incident in 1991 just across the state line in Grayson County, Texas.

In that incident, Reserve Deputy Stacy Burns threw Jill Brown to the ground with such force that she has since undergone four operations and will require total knee replacements.

Mr. Burns had been hired by his uncle, Sheriff B.J. Moore, despite a long record of misdemeanor convictions. Oklahoma law bars only the hiring of convicted felons to such law enforcement jobs.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote for the court that although Sheriff Moore's decision to hire Mr. Burns may have been a poor one, it did not make the county vulnerable to Mrs. Brown's lawsuit.

The court's dissenters said that the decision watered down a line of Supreme Court decisions, dating back to 1978, that subject local governments to civil rights lawsuits when individuals' rights are violated.

Justice O'Connor said, "Congress did not intend municipalities to be held liable unless deliberate action attributable to the municipality directly caused a deprivation of federal rights."

In another case, the Supreme Court ruled that states could bar political candidates from appearing on an election ballot under more than one party banner.

The 6-to-3 ruling allows Minnesota to rejoin about 40 other states that limit candidates to one listing on a ballot. Such laws do not violate political parties' right to freedom of association, the justices said.

"States may, and inevitably must, enact reasonable regulations of parties, elections and ballots to reduce election and campaign-related disorder," Chief Justice William Rehnquist wrote for the majority.

Four states allow candidates to be listed as the nominee of more than one party: New York, Oregon, Vermont and Utah. About 40 states prohibit multiple-party candidacies.

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Chemical Arms Pact Takes Effect, With China Joining In

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING — China has joined the United States in ratifying the international Chemical Weapons Convention, Chinese officials announced Monday, leaving Russia as the only permanent member of the UN Security Council outside the treaty.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said China submitted the letter of ratification to the United Nations on Friday to become the 78th signer of the convention.

The convention, which was finalized in 1993 after 20 years of discussion, goes into effect Tuesday. It bans the development, production, stockpiling or use of chemical weapons.

"China is pushing its profile as a dependable member of the international community," a Western military expert said, "and this is an easy area where it can show its will to act as a responsible power, without having to take much action."

By ratifying before the deadline, China has also become a founder of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the body charged with enforcing the convention.

Only founders will sit on the organization's executive committee, which will direct monitoring and have access to confidential data on world stocks of chemical weapons.

The United States, one of the five permanent Security Council members, ratified the convention a day before China did.

France ratified it in 1995 and Britain did so in 1996.

The Russian lower house of Parliament, the State Duma, voted Friday to postpone ratification because of "very difficult economic conditions."

China had previously expressed reservations about signing the treaty because of the monitoring and inspection procedures, which it feared could be used to interfere in its domestic affairs.

But the 23d session of the standing committee of the National People's Congress agreed to ratify the convention earlier this year, without making the decision public.

"The timing of its announcement, directly after the United States', indicates two things," an Asian diplomat said. "First, that Beijing was waiting for Washington and, second, that it wanted to get maximum media coverage for the ratification."

The treaty requires member states to destroy their chemical weapons stockpiles and production facilities within a specified time period. The goal is to eliminate such weapons by 2007.

Officially, China states that the only chemical weapons on its territory are those left behind by Japan. But U.S. allegations that Beijing was helping Iran develop chemical weapons emerged in the early 1990s.

In its first year of operation, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons will have a provisional budget of about $52 million. It plans to have 140 inspectors on the ground and make visits to about 100 chemical-arms sites.

New Indian Government Rocked by Prosecutions

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW DELHI — Federal investigators have decided to prosecute top leaders of the governing coalition, casting a shadow of scandal over the government of Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral.

Leaders of the coalition's main ally also have been targeted in the investigation, which involves the alleged theft of $138 million from a state treasury, news reports said Monday.

The accused include the president of Mr. Gujral's Janata Dal and a regional leader of his United Front coalition's main supporter, the Congress (I) Party.

Mr. Gujral and his ousted predecessor, H.D. Deve Gowda, belong to the Janata Dal, which is the biggest component of the 15-party United Front coalition with 45 of its 178 deputies in the 545-seat lower house of Parliament.

A series of scandals has battered public confidence in India's government. In a reflection of voter discontent, elections last May left no party with a clear majority in Parliament.

The Central Bureau of Investigation said 56 people have been accused in the scandal. They include: Laloo Prasad Yadav, the highest elected representative in the eastern state of Bihar and president of the Janata Dal; Chandradeo Prasad Varma, another Janata Dal member and Mr. Gujral's minister for rural areas and employment; and Jagannath Mishra, Bihar state Congress (I) Party leader.

Mr. Yadav denied involvement Monday, saying he was among the first to call for an investigation.

"How can I be an accused when I was a complainant in this case?" he said.

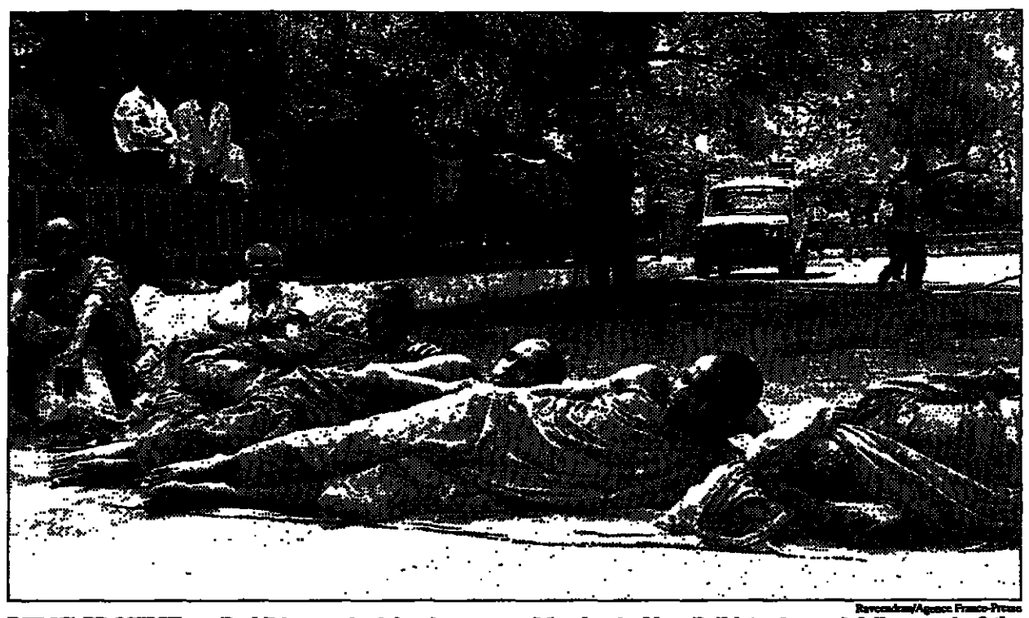
Mr. Yadav said he would not resign as chief minister, as his critics have demanded. He had aspired to become prime minister himself, but was hampered by the scandal, which has been under investigation for several years.

Mr. Varma also has denied wrongdoing.

The bureau is reportedly planning to seek the permission of the president and state governor to bring charges against Mr. Yadav and Mr. Varma. Such permission is necessary because the accused hold high political posts.

The 56 are accused of siphoning billions of rupees away from the state government's animal husbandry department. Instead of going to feed cattle, the money allegedly went into the hands of politicians and government officials in the 1980s and 1990s.

If convicted of corruption, the accused could face up to seven years' imprisonment.



Rawcliffe/Agence France-Presse

DELHI PROTEST — Buddhist monks lying in a street Monday in New Delhi to demand full control of the Bodhgaya temple in Bihar, where Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment. The temple is shared with Hindus.

Adding to Mr. Gujral's woes was a call by four leftist parties in his coalition for changes in the 1997-98 budget, due to be discussed in Parliament this week.

The Left Front issued a statement calling for changes in the areas of insurance, taxes, divestiture of state enterprises, public distribution, customs duties and excise duties.

The budget, which would cut taxes and boost private investment, was seen as a litmus test of both the new government's commitment to economic reforms and its cohesion.

Mr. Gujral's government was also awaiting word from former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram's Tamil Maanila Congress on whether the regional party would decide to join the government. Mr. Chidambaram was the main economic strategist in Mr. Deve Gowda's cabinet and drafted the budget. *(AP, Reuters)*

Bob Strong/Reuters

FROM THE TOP — Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan inspecting the ceremonial band at Parliament House in Canberra on Monday, the first of a two-day visit to bolster ties with Australia.

Under Cloud, Chinese Starts U.S. Visit

Agence France-Presse

WASHINGTON — Foreign Minister Qian Qichen of China began a three-day official visit to the United States on Monday that has been clouded by allegations that Beijing illegally tried to influence the general election in the United States last year.

The White House declined last week to say whether President Bill Clinton would raise the issue of Beijing's possible electoral meddling during his meeting with Mr. Qian on Wednesday.

But in his first substantive comments on the issue, Mr. Clinton played down a report that the FBI had found substantial evidence linking top Chinese leaders to a scheme to buy influence with American politicians.

"If there was any improper attempt to influence," Mr. Clinton said at a White House news conference Friday, "the workings of the United States executive or legislative branches, obviously that would be a matter of serious concern. But I think it is important that we not accuse people of something that we don't know for sure that they have done."

American officials acknowledge privately, however, that the allegations will make the annual fight to maintain China's normal trading privileges with the United States especially nasty, since legislators are loathe to look beholden to Beijing.

To complicate matters, analysts say, the administration has little to show for its policy of "engaging" China except a 1996 trade deficit of nearly $40 billion, cozier ties between Moscow and Beijing and a Communist crackdown on dissent.

That, in turn, has fueled a new antipathy toward China among American opinion leaders, who experts say are just catching up with widespread popular suspicion here that the world's largest rising power may not be friendly to U.S. interests after all.

An effort to assuage congressional concern about Chinese arms sales to Iran and Pakistan, analysts say, could shore up support for renewing China's most-favored-nation trade privileges in early June.

Even then, however, there are no guarantees: Some members of the Republican-run Congress have raised the possibility of renewing the trading privileges for six months rather than the current 12.

Mr. Qian's official visit was to include a three-hour meeting and working dinner late Monday with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

His meetings here, which will also cover U.S.-Chinese collaboration toward a Korean peace treaty, are expected to pave the way for an exchange of summit meetings late this year and early next year.

BRIEFLY

Malaysia Punishes Opposition Leader

MALACCA, Malaysia — A leading opposition politician in Malaysia was found guilty Monday of sedition and faces the loss of his parliamentary seat.

The High Court in the west coast state of Malacca found Lim Guan Eng, youth leader of the Democratic Action Party, guilty on two charges of sedition and spreading false news.

He was fined 15,000 ringgit ($6,000) for violating the Sedition Act and the Printing and Publications Act.

Under article 48 of the constitution, a member of Parliament is disqualified if he is sentenced to a year's jail or a 2,000 ringgit fine. The disqualification takes effect 14 days from the day of conviction.

Mr. Lim was charged with making false statements in 1995 about Malacca's chief minister, Rahim Tamby Chik, who was accused then by a 15-year-old schoolgirl of having an affair with her. Mr. Rahim, a rising star in the ruling party, denied the charge.

Mr. Lim said he that would appeal, but that "the severity of the sentence does not leave much room for optimism." *(Reuters)*

Court in Singapore Alters the Record

SINGAPORE — The High Court ordered Monday that disparaging remarks about Malaysia made by Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, which triggered a bitter diplomatic exchange, be stricken from a court document.

The order was issued at the request of the former prime minister, who made a rare court appearance to explain his application to delete the remarks from an affidavit against a political opponent, Tang Liang Hong, who has fled to Malaysia.

"The powers of the court must be used to maintain friendly relations between Singapore and every other country," Judge Lai Kew Chai said after a three-hour hearing.

Mr. Lee had depicted the Malaysian state of Johore as "notorious for shootings, muggings and carjackings." *(AFP)*

Muslim Protesters Are Shot in China

BEIJING — Police officers in a region of China shaken by separatist protests and rioting killed two people and wounded five when they fired on a crowd of Muslims who surrounded buses that were taking convicted rioters to jail, an official said Monday.

The shooting last Thursday in Yining, in the northwestern region of Xinjiang, followed a public rally at which three people were sentenced to death and 27 to prison for their involvement in anti-Chinese riots in February.

A crowd of Uighurs, the region's Muslim majority, blocked buses carrying the prisoners and ignored police warnings to disperse, said an official at the Communist Party's headquarters for Xinjiang. *(AP)*

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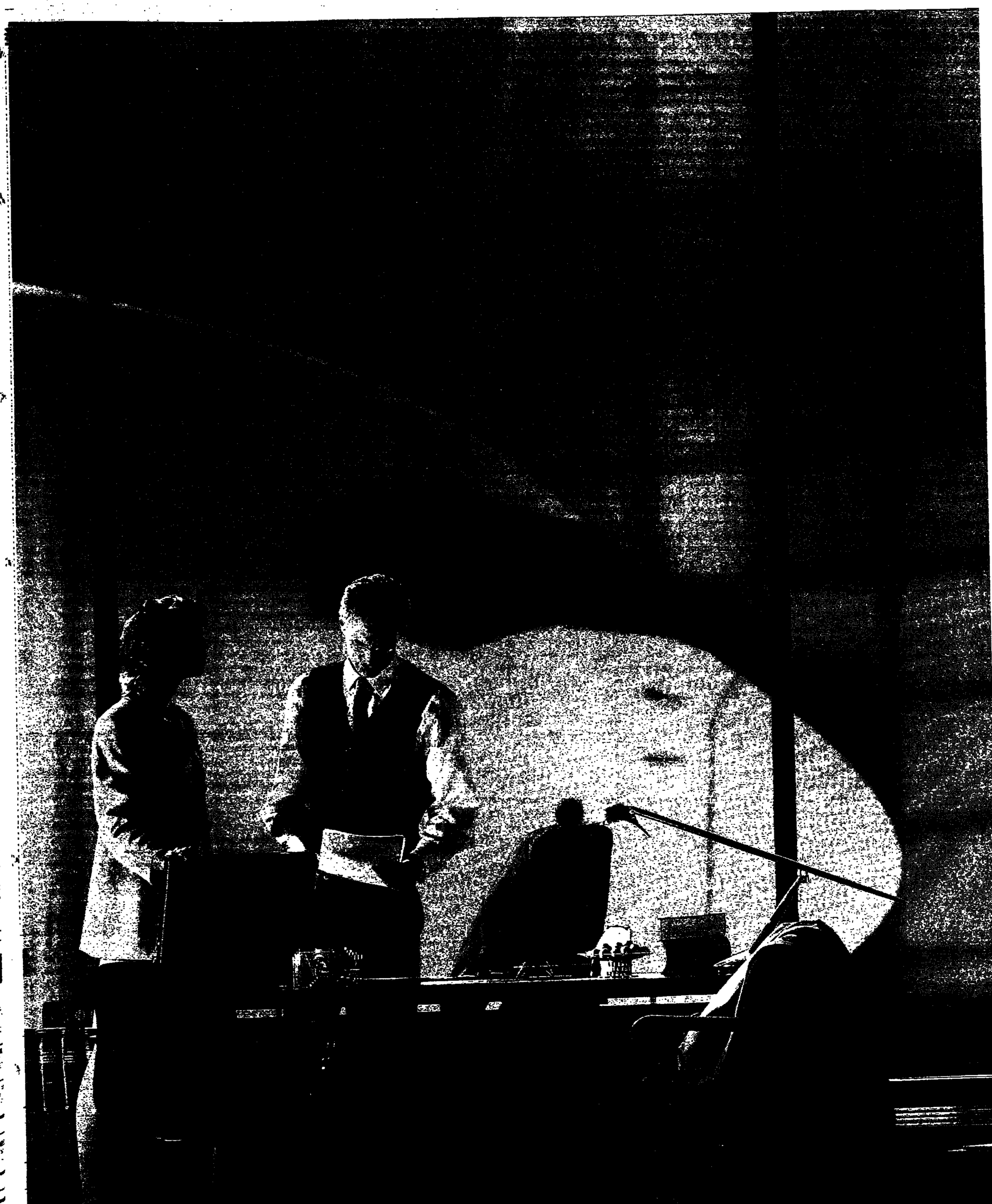

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EUROPE

For the Turin Shroud, the Narrowest Escape Since 1532

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

TURIN — Almost everything about the Shroud of Turin is surrounded by mystery — its age, its authenticity and the identity of the bearded man with deep-set eyes whose image is imprinted on the length of yellowing linen, still believed by many Catholics to be the burial cloth of Jesus.

Now to add to the legend, there is also the mystery of the fire that ripped through the 17th-century Baroque chapel built to house the shroud and that spread into the upper floors of the neighboring Royal Palace on the night of April 12. The shroud itself was saved but the chapel was gutted, just weeks before the scaffolding was to come down after a three-year restoration.

Whether it dates from the Middle Ages, as carbon testing done on tiny swatches of the shroud concluded in 1988, or to the time of Jesus, the centuries-old fascination with the shroud has only increased since the fire.

The shroud is normally rolled up and kept in a silver casket, which is itself sealed behind bulletproof glass. Local church officials will lay out the shroud for viewing here next year from mid-April to mid-June, and they now say that the crowds will exceed their earlier expectations of 3 million.

A second showing is planned for the year 2000, declared a Holy Year by the Roman Catholic Church.

Only after the two showings will the shroud be submitted to more tests, but these will be mostly dedicated to finding new and better conservation methods. "The big question remains, and that is how was the image formed," said Marco Donatti, editor of Turin's Catholic weekly newspaper. "And here we have still made no headway."

The last time a fire started near the shroud was in 1532, in Chambery in southeastern France, when the cloth itself — described as a fine, tightly woven herringbone twill — was slightly damaged as a drop of molten silver from its casket fell on it and it was doused with water. The shroud still bears the water marks and signs of scorching.

This time, the fire never really came close to the shroud's casket, which was housed in the adjacent cathedral during the chapel's restoration. In fact, Mario Trematore, the 44-year-old fire fighter who rushed to its rescue, had to swing his sledge-hammer several times before he broke the heavy glass protecting the shroud. "I was afraid for the shroud because when I smashed through the glass, I could easily smash the casket and the shroud, and then I would have been known as the biggest cretin in the world," he said.

The fire destroyed the interior of the chapel, designed by Guarino Guarini. Its distinctive cupola was left standing, although there is still some fear that it too could collapse if the weather turns bad.

Local cultural officials now estimate that it could take as much as $40 million to repair the damage in both the chapel and the palace — 30 times the amount spent on the restoration work that went up in smoke.

Like all mysteries in Italy, the cause of the fire in the Chapel of the Holy Shroud has produced several elaborate theories. Turin is also a city known for a proliferation of Satanic cults, and it did not take long before some were suggesting that the fire was the work of devil worshipers. Others linked the blaze with a suspected plot against Pope John Paul II in Sarajevo. The coincidence, some have said, points to a global plot against the Catholic Church.

But the most plausible and damning theory is that the fire was accidental, set off by a short circuit, faulty wiring, an overheated lamp or electrical appliance, perhaps left on by one of the restoration crews that had been working there that afternoon. As several commentators noted this week, Italy's cultural monuments are typically most at risk when they are under restoration — as Venice's La Fenice Opera House was in January 1996 when it was reduced to rubble by fire. Early reports that the Fenice fire may have been set are still under investigation.

"If the fire here was accidental, then we have to ask ourselves, 'How can that be?' " said Giuseppe Ferrando, the chief prosecuting magistrate in charge of the investigation into the fire. "If it was deliberate, then you can't really defend yourself, any more than the World Trade Center could protect itself."

A coincidence that Mr. Ferrando finds particularly intriguing is the gala dinner that same night at the Royal Palace to honor Kofi Annan, the UN secretary-general, which was attended by this industrial city's business and political leaders.

The dinner, prepared off premises except for a risotto, which needs to be cooked on the spot, was held in a part of the palace that actually surrounds the chapel. The 130 guests — who included Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat, the Italian automobile company based here, and former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti — had their aperitifs in the Gallery of the Holy Shroud, before moving onto dinner in the splendid Hall of the Swiss.

The dinner was over, and the guests had filed out when smoke alarms in the palace's empty upper floors went off, shortly after 11 P.M. But the custodians who went upstairs to check found no evidence of either smoke or fire, and it was not until a half-hour later, when flames were seen shooting out of the chapel's upper windows, that a general alarm was sounded.

"The guests left between 11 and 11:10, when the alarm went off, which means that the fire had already started, and so was happening during the dinner," Mr. Ferrando said. "This is very strange."

Ciller Affirms Her Support Of Coalition

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ANKARA — Deputy Prime Minister Tansu Ciller said Monday that her coalition with Islamists would continue despite a dispute over the role of Islam in public life since the alliance came to power.

"We will continue to work with stability," Mrs. Ciller said after meeting with Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan.

Two cabinet members from Mrs. Ciller's True Path Party resigned over the weekend, saying they were angered by Mr. Erbakan's reluctance to reverse some of his Islamist policies as he had agreed to do in February under pressure from the military.

Mr. Erbakan signed a communiqué by the military-dominated National Security Council on Saturday, agreeing to measures that included the extension of secular education at the expense of religious schools.

But Mr. Erbakan's Islam-based Welfare Party is expected to oppose the education changes in Parliament.

Interior Ministry officials said Monday that the police had closed down eight Islamic schools that were operating illegally.

Seven schools in the western city of Bursa and one in the northern town of Zonguldak were closed after it was found that they had been operating without the license of the government's religious affairs directorate, the police said.

(Reuters, AFP)

■ Turkey Sees Aid Approval

The Turkish Foreign Ministry said Monday that it expected Greece to lift its veto of a multimillion dollar European Union aid package for Turkey during talks in Luxembourg, The Associated Press reported from Ankara.

"We have a very constructive and positive attitude," said Omer Akbel, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, when asked if Turkey would seek the removal of the veto. "We believe that similar approach and support will come from the Greek side."

The Greek veto affects a five-year $431.3 million aid package, which the Union has approved to help small and mid-sized Turkish companies offset any damage they suffer because of a Turkish-EU customs union that took effect Dec. 31, 1995.

Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller will represent Turkey during the meeting with EU representatives in Luxembourg on Tuesday.

On French Election Trail, Few Champion the Euro

Socialists Now Cool to Common Currency

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — The promises and perils of a common European currency have not yet become the fixation of the French election campaign as they have in Britain, but the euro, as the unit of currency would be called, has few unconditional defenders in Paris.

The deficit-cutting measures required to qualify France to be among the founders of the new European currency in 1999 have sapped the popularity of Prime Minister Alain Juppe's government. And President Jacques Chirac called new elections in hopes of bringing "new élan" to the sterility of recent French political debate.

Public opinion polls predict a narrow conservative victory in the two-stage vote for the national legislature, on May 25 and June 1. But differences about monetary policy in the Gaullist camp emerged Saturday from an election speech by Charles Pasqua, a conservative and former interior minister who stands to the right of Mr. Juppe on domestic issues.

"There will be no new élan," Mr. Pasqua warned his followers, "if France continues sacrificing full employment to currency." Mr. Pasqua made no effort to conceal his view that Mr. Juppe was not up to leading the campaign to victory.

Mr. Juppe said Sunday night that he was not campaigning to succeed himself, but it is widely expected that he would be reappointed to lead a new Conservative government.

The criteria for the common currency, including a strict limit on budget deficits, were set by the late President Francois Mitterrand, a Socialist, and other European leaders at a meeting in Maastricht, the Netherlands, at the end of 1991.

But the leader of the Socialist opposition, Lionel Jospin, distanced his party from its former leader's position on the common currency in an interview published in Le Journal du Dimanche.

"If fulfilling the Maastricht criteria requires imposing still another austerity cure, the country simply can't accept it, economically and socially," he said.

In a campaign interview on French national television Sunday night, Mr. Juppe said: "If the Maastricht criteria didn't exist, we'd have to do the same thing anyway. The French economy is asphyxiated by public expenses and taxes."

But he said that further austerity measures would not be required to shake France out of the doldrums of double-digit unemployment, now at 12.8 percent.

"When growth returns, and everybody is predicting growth of 3 percent in 1998, that will permit us to reduce taxes and deficits," he said.

A common currency, administered by an independent European central bank, would take many of these decisions out of national hands, the main reason why so many Conservatives in Britain oppose introducing the euro there.

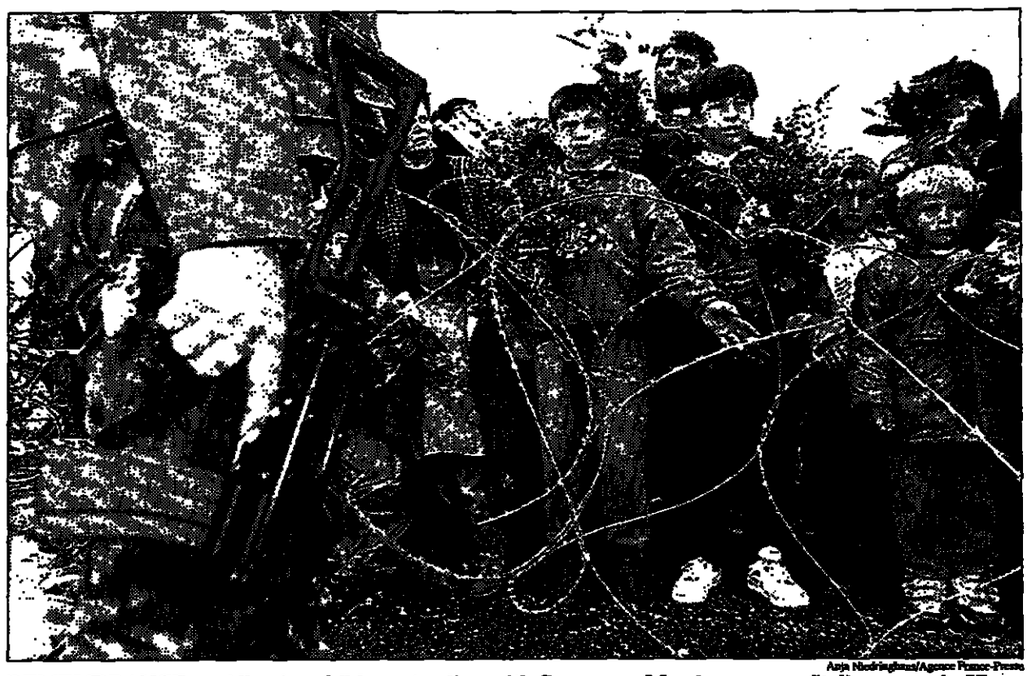
Mr. Mitterrand was among the principal architects of the treaty, and Mr. Jospin's Socialists campaigned for its acceptance in a hotly contested referendum in 1992.

According to the public opinion polls, they do not stand to win a majority in the new 577-seat French legislature, but might be able to form a government with the Communists if there were a leftward surge in the vote. Asked by his interviewers if he would consider governing with the Communists, Mr. Jospin said, "Where's the problem?"

Communist leaders have been fundamentally opposed to the European currency as an anti-inflationary sellout of the working class to the interests of global capitalism. On the far right, National Front, led by Jean-Marie Le Pen, is also against the euro, which he sees as an unacceptable surrender of French national sovereignty to European Union bureaucrats.

So, Mr. Juppe argued, the only manageable electoral outcome was a conservative majority to pull Europe in the same direction as France's conservative president as the century ends.

"If the majority is returned, France will know where she is going," he said, campaigning Saturday in Bordeaux, where he has been mayor since 1995.



Anja Niedringhaus/Agence France-Presse

REMEMBRANCE — Albanian children standing with flowers on Monday near an Italian camp in Vlore. They were there to commemorate refugees who died last month when their boat collided with an Italian ship.

Primakov to Meet With Talbott

Agence France-Presse

MOSCOW — Foreign Minister Yevgeni Primakov, back home after surgery for gall stones, will meet Wednesday with the U.S. deputy secretary of state, Strobe Talbott, Russian news agencies said.

Pet Food Gave Dogs 'Mad Cow' Disease

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — Government researchers found six years ago that dogs were susceptible to a form of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or "mad cow" disease, from eating contaminated pet food, according to reports published Monday.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, commenting on a report in The Independent, confirmed that the results of the 1992 study not been published and that no follow-up study had been done.

Government scientists studied the brains of 444 hunting hounds that had died after showing signs of distress associated with the disease and found abnormalities that also were noticed by scientists studying scrapie, a spongiform encephalopathy in sheep. The scientists said the study confirmed that some of the brains showed signs of a canine equivalent of mad cow disease.

Stephen Dealler, a microbiologist who is a leading critic of the government's handling of the disease, said it was "incredible that this experiment was known about before the last general election," which took place in the spring of 1992.

BRIEFLY

Spanish Liberalize Labor Laws

MADRID — Employers and unions signed a historic agreement Monday liberalizing labor laws in Spain, in an effort to reduce the country's record jobless rate.

The unprecedented accord came a day after the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations called for Europe to introduce reforms to cut unemployment levels.

"It is a great day for the economy, for businesses and for the Spanish, who can now look to the future with more confidence," said Antonio Gutierrez, secretary-general of the pro-Communist labor confederation.

The signature of the accord is seen as bolstering rightist prime minister, Jose Maria Aznar, who has made reducing unemployment his main priority for the year. *(AFP)*

Albania Official Urges Elections

TIRANA, Albania — The justice minister said Monday that time was running out for holding planned elections by June and called on parties in the national reconciliation government to agree quickly on the form of the vote.

"Politicians should be more reasonable, get rid of their passions and try to reach a gentleman's agreement where all the parties may profit," Justice Minister Spartak Ngjela said.

The 10-party government, formed March 9 in response to widespread unrest in the Balkan nation, cannot agree over what type of voting system to use.

President Sali Berisha's Democratic Party is holding out for a first-past-the-post system. The other nine parties want some form of proportional representation. *(Reuters)*

Russia-Belarus Union by June?

MOSCOW — A proposed union between Russia and Belarus could come into force by June, an official working on the agreement between the two former Soviet republics said Monday.

"I believe there will already be a union by June," said Vladimir Grigoriyev, deputy head of a joint Russian-Belarussian council that is overseeing creation of the union. "It's the will of the people, and the will of its presidents."

Experts from both sides are still working out details of how integration will take shape. Russian officials have said both countries would retain their sovereignty. *(Reuters)*

Bucharest and Kiev Reach Pact

BRUSSELS — Romania has reached a "compromise treaty" with Ukraine that guarantees stability and the strategic interests of Romania, the Romanian foreign minister, Adrian Severin, said Monday.

On the sidelines of a North Atlantic Treaty Organization meeting here at which Bucharest made its case for alliance membership, Mr. Severin said that the pact would be initialed in Kiev on Saturday. *(AFP)*

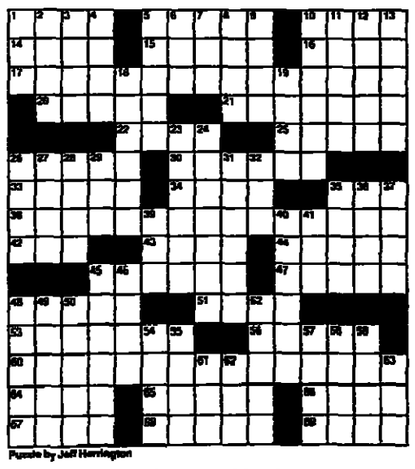
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Sluggers' stats
5 Theme of this puzzle
10 Capital of Italia
14 Burn soother
15 Filibuster, in a way
16 Hawaiian music makers
17 Editor's definition of this puzzle's theme
20 Prevent legally
21 Popular beverage brand
22 Shea nine
25 More crafty
26 Allowable
30 Beckon
33 University of Maine site
34 ——do-well
35 *Dickens* protagonist
38 Mapmaker's definition of this puzzle's theme
42 Compass heading
43 Pseudonymous short-story writer
44 Backing for an exhibit
46 Peaceful
47 Sentient
48 Insurance giant
51 Negative in Nuremberg
53 Competed in the Hambletonian
56 Ribeye, e.g.
60 Physician's definition of this puzzle's theme
64 Bank claim
65 Battery part
66 Second in command
67 Driver's license prerequisite
68 Tha —— Prayer
69 Interested look

DOWN

1 Genre for Notorious B.I.G.
2 Depressed
3 Charged particles
4 Split-off group
5 Stylish auto
6 Man-mouse link
7 Back muscle, familiarly
8 Redding of 60's soul
9 "Open 24 hours" sign, maybe
10 Muss up
11 Animal with zebra-striped legs
12 Actress Oberon
13 Questioner
18 *Indian drum*
19 Political cartoonist Thomas
23 Kid's make-believe telephone
24 Elude the doorman
26 Canter
27 Ayatollah's land
28 Dunce cap, essentially
29 —— pinch
31 Where St. Mark's Cathedral is
32 Investment vehicle, for short
35 Famous tower locale
36 Roman road
37 See 49-Down
39 Enzyme suffix
40 Shanty
41 Bird's cry
45 *Purpose*
46 "Phooey!"
48 Not perfectly upright
49 With 37-Down, famous W.W. II correspondent
50 Big handbags
52 Wight and Man
54 List shortener
55 Singer Martin, to friends
57 Therefore
58 In awe
59 Basketball's Malone
61 Neither's companion
62 Do basic arithmetic
62 Society column word



Puzzle by Jeff Harrington

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz

Solution to Puzzle of April 28

S	A	H	L		D	I	N	G		S	C	A	B	S
O	L	E	O		O	R	E	O		C	A	R	A	T
B	L	A	C	K	J	A	C	K		A	L	I	N	E
		T	O	R	O		K	A	R	L		S	T	E
A	S	H		I	S	H		R	E	D	H	E	A	D
P	A	R	I	S		O	A	T	S		I	S	M	S
B	O	O	M	T	O	W	N		P	E	T			
		W	H	I	T	E	K	N	I	G	H	T		
			O	N	E		H	U	N	G	E	R	E	D
I	C	B	M		L	O	S	T		E	R	A	T	O
B	L	U	E	F	L	U		S	O	D		C	A	T
I	A	N		I	O	T	A		N	O	A	H		
S	I	G	M	A		G	R	E	E	N	B	E	A	N
E	R	E	C	T		U	L	N	A		B	A	L	I
S	E	E	M	S		N	O	E	L		A	L	I	T

Harry's
Est. 1911, Paris
"Sank Roo Doe Noo"
A Space for Thought.

ITALY: *Swing Vote in Communists' Hands*

Continued from Page 1

adopted last fall to meet the European budget deficit guidelines.

With the same insistence, Mr. Bertinotti has said that his party would oppose structural cuts to the generous welfare system. Like other small parties in Italy, on this issue and others the Refounded Communist Party has succeeded through back-room negotiating to overcome a lack of broad-based popular support.

Strengthened by the party's showing in Milan and Turin, where its candidates received almost 10 percent of the vote, the Refounded Communist leaders were promising Monday that they would strike a hard bargain for their support for Olive Tree candidates in the run-offs May 11.

"Given that we got so many votes, this will give more importance to both our social spending and structural reform position — a position that says that social reform will happen, but without cuts to spending," Mr. Bertinotti said in a television interview Monday. "If we reach a clear agreement, we will be able to go to Milan and Turin and other cities, and win."

One year after a landmark election that gave the Italian left its first national victory, the Prodi government is caught in a ever-tightening vise, many commentators noted. It can either bargain with the Refounded Communists, or, according to a front-page analysis in the Turin newspaper La Stampa, it can summon the "courage that has been all too often lacking on the center-left these last few months" and gamble that its policies will survive anyway.

The Prodi government lately has suffered a series of embarrassing setbacks. They started with a vote of confidence on the eve of an international mission to Albania, followed one week later by the news that the flagship of the Italian Navy had run aground on a sandbar outside the Albanian port city of Vlore.

But the most disheartening report came from the European Commission, which said last week that Italy was trailing Spain and Portugal in its efforts to meet the guidelines for the new European currency.

IRAN: *EU Envoys to Return*

Continued from Page 1

aged when the Iranian government protected the German Embassy in Tehran from mobs protesting the Berlin court ruling. They also said they did not want to provoke hard-liners in Iran before the presidential elections to be held there next month.

"We are not interested in going to an all-out war with Iran," a senior German official said. "We are not trying to escalate. We find that the Iranian side, for what it's worth, is trying not to escalate either."

Officials in other European capitals said they were striving to strike a balance that would maintain pressure on Tehran while rejecting the economic and diplomatic isolation practiced by Washington. "The 15 are unanimous in wanting to maintain a certain European autonomy toward Iran," a senior French official said.

A U.S. undersecretary of state, Peter Tarnoff, visited London, Paris, Bonn and the Hague last week to press Washington's case for tougher measures, but American officials played down their expectations.

"We realize that getting a consensus among 15 countries is not the easiest thing in the world to do," a U.S. official said. Nevertheless, the official said, "we hope there will be some gestures."

Small EU countries are reluctant to expel suspected Iranian intelligence agents because any mutual retaliation by Iran could nearly eliminate their small embassy staffs in Tehran, officials said. Germany expelled four Iranian diplomats immediately after the court ruling, and Iran responded in kind.

Vandals Desecrate German War Graves

The Associated Press

ERFURT, Germany — Vandals toppled the gravestones of 29 World War II slave laborers in the eastern city of Gotha in what is being investigated as a possible attack by extreme rightists, police said Monday.

Thirty-one other graves at the main cemetery were also vandalized, including three graves containing victims of wartime air raids.

At six sites, crosses were ripped out and rammed into the ground upside down, suggesting that the desecrations could also involve a satanic cult, the police said.

The slave workers' graves contained the remains of eight Lithuanians and 21 Latvians forced to work for the Nazis.

The vandalism probably occurred late Saturday or early Sunday, the police said. There were no suspects.

INTERNATIONAL

'Devolution' On His Mind, Major Hits Road in U.K.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Prime Minister John Major flew to Northern Ireland and Scotland on Monday to stress his commitment to the United Kingdom, an issue he has emphasized in the waning days of the election campaign.

Mr. Major's trip, with plans for a stop in Wales, underlined his opposition to Labour's plans for "devolution" of some legislative responsibilities to assemblies in Wales and Scotland.

Condemning the Irish Republican Army for their campaign of disruption before the British election on Thursday, Mr. Major urged voters in the province to give support to what he called "genuinely democratic parties."

IRA guerrillas, who last year resumed an armed campaign to expel Britain from the province, have caused chaos in mainland Britain in recent weeks with bombs and bomb hoaxes.

The IRA's political arm, Sinn Fein, accuses Mr. Major of squandering the potential of a 17-month cease-fire that ended last year by refusing to bring Sinn Fein into talks on resolving decades of conflict in Northern Ireland between the majority pro-British Protestants and the minority Irish Catholics. Mr. Major said as he swept through a central shopping area of Belfast on Monday that the elections were being "abused" by both Sinn Fein and the IRA.

"Anyone who votes Sinn Fein in this election is condoning the violence," he said.

The Labour Party leader, Tony Blair, attacked the government's record on health Monday and warned supporters against overconfidence as the election neared.

"The U.K. has four components," Mr. Major said in Belfast. "The interest of the government extends to every part of the U.K., and we are concerned with the security of the U.K."

Mr. Blair said, "I think there is something slightly absurd about Mr. Major touring round the U.K. saying that Scottish devolution is a disaster for the U.K., when what he proposes for Northern Ireland is precisely that same devolution."

Mr. Major's government and the Irish government have jointly proposed a form of self-government for Northern Ireland, but have said that they will support any agreement reached in all-party negotiations. Labour has supported the government's policy, and Northern Ireland has not been a campaign issue.

Public-opinion polls, including one by Gallup published Monday that showed Labour 19 points ahead, give or take 3 percentage points, outlined the possibility of a landslide on the scale of that of 1945, when Labour crushed the Conservatives, who were then led by Winston Churchill. *(AP, Reuters)*

Alan Lewis/Agence France-Presse

British security forces examining a car Monday near Sinn Fein offices in Belfast that was found to contain 100 pounds of explosives. Prime Minister John Major, in a campaign visit the same day, condemned IRA violence.

BLAIR: *'New' Labour Leader, Banking on Tory Fatigue, Makes Few Promises to Britain*

Continued from Page 1

The same voters who are confiding to pollsters that they remain unsure of what he envisions for Britain are also confirming that they will vote Thursday to put him in the country's highest office and, if the polling numbers are even remotely accurate, back him up with a substantial majority in Parliament.

The attraction is Mr. Blair himself, an articulate and contained Oxford graduate who has raised little expectation other than a change of personality in No. 10 Downing Street. He speaks in unrevealing contradictions, saying he wants change but continuity, toughness but compassion and, in what has become the mantra of the latter days of a campaign that has made few promises, something he calls "radical centrism."

Approach Mr. Blair on a campaign stop with a plea for a specific pledge on a concern of particular interest to Labour — like education, health or welfare — and you will not get a typical politician's laundry list of predictions. A smiling promise to "do better" is the extent of the commitment.

The party's appeal cannot be attributed to the policy alternatives it is offering the public. Its proposals so resemble those of the governing Conservative Party that Paddy Ashdown, the leader of the Liberal Democrats, has said the campaign between Labour and the Conservatives reminds him of "synchronized swimming."

Part of the reason for Labour's double-digit lead is public weariness with the Tories, who, despite producing a robust economy and significantly improving the lot of the upwardly mobile, have worn out their welcome after 17 years in power.

"Labour will win because it is not the Conservative Party and because it is not much different from the Conservative Party," said Ross McKibbon, a historian, at Oxford, of the Labour Party.

That thinking has been behind Labour's strategy of criticizing the tactics of the Tories while promising not to tamper with the results of their policies. On becoming the Labour leader in 1994, Mr. Blair set out to make the party a mainstream alternative to the Conservatives.

He brought profound change to the party, doubling its membership, reducing its dependence on the financial backing of trade-unions, democratizing its internal procedures and rewriting its charter to get rid of language supporting nationalized industries, broad union power and the growth of the state.

In the campaign, he has gone further to assure people worried about Labour's stormy past that the party has learned its lessons. He has pledged to maintain Tory spending limits for the next two years and not to raise income taxes for the next five. New Labour has abandoned its bedrock notion of using taxes to redistribute income and now, in the words of Mr. Blair, is "pro-entrepreneur, pro-business."

He has apparently succeeded in the tricky task of maintaining the trust of people despite frequent skittering to the right on basic issues like privatization, union legislation, Britain's integration into Europe and autonomy for Scotland and Wales.

Mr. Blair has proved to be an elusive target for the Conservatives, who began the campaign likening him to Stalin and Kim Il Sung for his tough stewardship of the Labour Party and are ending it by saying he is too weak to "stand up to Europe."

Mr. Blair speaks with great fluency, but he is given to uttering bromides. The manifesto supposedly composed in the flush of inspiration speaks of "stable economic growth," getting "tough on crime and the causes of crime," safeguarding the environment and reducing the costs of the National Health Service.

While passionate about public service, he can sound distrustful of politics, particularly when talking about the conditions in the Labour Party he joined in 1983 and watched lose three national elections.

The one goal Mr. Blair has been very clear about is the need to win, and that accounts for the discipline he has brought to the party. In 1995, a group of union leaders, distressed at signs he was altering the party's philosophy, asked him what his secret plans were.

"We have an agenda," he said, "and it's not secret. It's to win the next general election."

MILITARY: *Unforgiving Justice*

Continued from Page 1

overwhelming majority have been found guilty. An even larger number of people were punished administratively. Such cases also frequently include charges of sodomy if the lovers are suspected of engaging in oral sex, and fraternization if the romance involves an officer and enlisted person — a crime considered more serious than simple adultery for its implied abuse of power and authority. The air force was the only branch of service willing or able to provide figures for such crimes.

And while imprisonment for these crimes is rare, the price of forbidden love in the military can nonetheless be high — careers are ruined, reputations destroyed, families traumatized.

At Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota, the country's first female bomber pilot will be court-martialed on May 20 for adultery. She had an affair with a civilian who has stated under oath that he lied to her when he claimed to be legally separated from his wife.

"Oh, I'll admit I made mistakes in judgment," said Lieutenant Kelly Flinn, 26 and single, "but I don't think they were federal crimes, nor should there be the potential that I spend the rest of my life as a convicted felon."

Lieutenant Flinn also is charged with fraternization for having sex with an unmarried enlisted man. The man, who was not in her chain of command, was given immunity to testify against her.

"The air force is going back to the Dark Ages," said Lieutenant Flinn's attorney, Frank Spinner, a retired lieutenant colonel and former law professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy who has defended several other officers on similar charges. "To a great degree, this is vindictiveness taking place."

Adultery, sodomy and fraternization have been forbidden under the Uniform Code of Military Justice for more than 200 years, but experts, official documents and lawyers suggest violators are being pursued now with particular zeal.

In the air force, detectives from the Office of Special Investigations are known to file official reports detailing a defendant's sexual performance, type of foreplay, preferred positions and method of birth control.

Friends, acquaintances and unsuspecting family members are questioned about the sexual habits of the suspect.

Tod Ensign, director of the nonprofit advocacy group Citizen Soldier, said a 23-year-old lieutenant recently tried in Biloxi, Mississippi, was interrogated for five hours about a one-night stand with an enlisted man. Both were single, and he was not in her chain of command.

"They were teasing out every single detail," Mr. Ensign said, "asking things like what kind of music was playing, how were you lying on the bed, did you talk about your sexual fantasies."

He added: "I believe it's a form of sexual harassment."

Military officials say sexual misconduct is prosecuted vigorously because illicit romances can damage troop morale and destroy cohesion of a unit. They also say it is imperative to protect soldiers from being victimized by superiors who wield considerable influence over their daily lives. Critics suggest there are other reasons as well.

Jon Tomes, a Kansas City defense attorney who is a retired air force prosecutor and author of "The Servicemember's Guidebook," believes the crackdown is as much a matter of economics as principle.

"First of all, there's less crime in the military overall than in the past," he said, suggesting that prosecutors now have more time to pursue crimes like adultery and fraternization.

Increasing numbers of women in the military also have recast fraternization into a carnal crime, where before it was more likely to be "the general playing poker or drinking with some enlisted man," Mr. Tomes said.

And, he said, "in this age of downsizing, the military is kind of looking for any way it can to get rid of someone where years ago they would've just winked."

In her statement at the trial, Colonel Tew said she feared losing her benefits because of a lump she had just discovered in her breast, and because one of her daughters was being treated for a brain tumor. She admitted that her affair was wrong. "I was lonely," she testified, "vulnerable."

Aware of her depression, the air force provided extensive counseling to Colonel Tew before, during and after her court-martial, officials said.

"There was a great deal of concern she might commit suicide by all parties concerned," said Captain Bill Barksdale, the spokesman at Scott Air Force Base.

In a suicide note, Colonel Tew expressed hope that "now the healing process can begin." By dying before her dismissal had been processed, she preserved her air force benefits for the family she left behind. At her funeral, the air force provided an honor guard and gave her a 21-gun salute.

BRIEFLY

Nigeria Vows End To Tribal Clashes

LAGOS — Nigeria's military authorities have said they will no longer tolerate tribal violence threatening the nation's vital oil industry and will take stern measures to restore order.

"We have had enough of this," Major General Felix Mujakperuo, a member of the Provisional Ruling Council, said over the weekend in Warri, an important oil-producing city in western Nigeria.

Troops were deployed in Wari last month in an effort to end the violence. But fighting in the vicinity over the weekend forced Royal Dutch/Shell Group to suspend some of its oil production. *(Reuters)*

Yemen Chief Ahead

SAN'A, Yemen — The party of President Ali Abdullah Saleh won a majority of the districts counted Monday in parliamentary elections.

With 49 of 301 constituencies tallied and other returns delayed until Tuesday due to a large turnout and complicated ballots, Mr. Saleh's General People's Congress had won 33 seats. Its principal rival, the Yemeni Islah Party, took nine seats and independents won seven, according to a monitoring group working with the Supreme Elections Committee. *(AP)*

450-Year Sentence For Brazil Officer

RIO DE JANEIRO — A judge sentenced a former police officer Sunday to almost 450 years for the massacre of 21 residents of a Rio slum, saying his actions "demeaned all values of human existence."

Under the law, the former officer, Paulo Roberto Alvarenga, cannot serve more than 30 years. But the symbolic sentence was seen by some human rights activists and relatives of the victims as a positive sign for dozens of trials to follow.

Mr. Alvarenga, 38, was the first of 51 policemen to be tried for the 1993 massacre, described by prosecutors as revenge for the killings of four state police officers. *(AP)*

New Manitoba Peril

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Brisk winds were forecast Monday for southern Manitoba, raising fears that high waves on the huge lake that now covers the region could threaten dikes protecting towns.

The Red River, which continued to swallow up vast tracts of rural land in Manitoba, was estimated to be 18 miles (29 kilometers) wide at the border with the United States.

About 17,000 people were evacuated south of Winnipeg, but hundreds more were awaiting rescue Sunday night. *(AP)*

U.S. Envoy, in Zaire, Says Crisis Has 'No Military Solution'

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KINSHASA, Zaire — Bill Richardson, the U.S. special envoy to Zaire, arrived here Monday and declared that the United States wanted to see a negotiated settlement in the Central African nation's seven-month civil war.

"The United States believes that there can be no military solution to the crisis," Mr. Richardson said, "but rather a negotiated settlement leading to an inclusive transitional government and fair and free elections."

"I am also here," he added, "because of our grave concern for the plight of several thousand refugees and displaced Zairians."

He said he would meet President Mobutu Sese Seko on Tuesday and then travel to Lubumbashi, in rebel-held territory, on Wednesday to see Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader.

Mr. Richardson, the U.S. delegate to the United Nations, was bringing a personal message from President Bill Clinton to Marshal Mobutu. Marshal Mobutu's son and adviser, Nzanga Mobutu, said earlier that the message was to be delivered to the Zairian leader at his residence.

Rebels stormed a pediatric hospital in eastern Zaire on Saturday, a UN spokesman said Monday, and dragged away 50 Rwandan refugee children. The UN said the attack was carried out the night before the rebel leader gave the United Nations two months to get Hutu refugees out of Zaire.

The children were taken just days after tens of thousands of sick and exhausted Rwandan refugees fled squalid camps near Kisangani.

On Monday, an international team allowed into that area of central Zaire reported the first sign of large groups of refugees — numbering in the thousands — emerging from the dense forests near Kisangani.

In the attack Saturday, about 20 rebels went to the hospital in Lwiro, near the border with Rwanda, and took away Rwandan children and adults who were with them, said Roger Botralahy, a spokesman for the UN children's agency.

In talks with UN and European Union officials Sunday in Kisangani, Mr. Kabila abruptly gave the United Nations two months to track down and evacuate the refugees, Filippo Grandi of the UN refugee agency said. *(Reuters, AFP, AP)*

Eric Feferberg/Agence France-Presse

Bill Richardson, left, the U.S. special envoy to Zaire, whispering to an aide during his arrival Monday in Kinshasa.

GERMANY: *Nation Begins to Accept Changing Ethnic Makeup*

Continued from Page 1

mans from Eastern countries and started the forcible expulsion of as many as 80,000 Bosnian refugees.

Many Germans, meanwhile, have come to believe that there is an urgent need to defuse mounting tension and the dangers of a two-tier society by integrating foreigners who have settled here — especially the many Turks, who began arriving in large numbers in the 1960s to help ease labor shortages. They now number about 2 million.

"Whether or not we like to admit it, Germany already has become a society of varied races and cultures," said Cornelia Schmalz-Jacobsen, the commissioner for foreigners.

"We are now into the third generation of families who came here in the 1950s," she said. "It's ridiculous to talk about them as guest workers or foreign fellow citizens. These people are German, and they have to be recognized as such."

A clear political majority that cuts across party lines is now coalescing around the need to abandon Germany's status as the only major Western nation that bases nationality on blood lines. Laws may soon be passed that will ease the naturalization process and grant dual citizenship to children born here of immigrant parents.

Nearly everybody agrees that the current citizenship law, rooted in a 1913 imperial decree that based nationality on German ancestry, seems badly outdated. Under the principle of inherited nationality, millions of ethnic Germans who do not speak German and whose ancestors lived for generations in the Volga region of the former Soviet Union have arrived in recent years to a strange and bewildering land where they are entitled to citizenship automatically.

But Turkish Germans who were born here, speak fluent German, work for German companies and pay German taxes still face enormous bureaucratic obstacles in gaining citizenship. Until 1993, foreigners were obliged to wait 15 years and spend thousands of dollars in fees to apply for German citizenship, and even then there were no guarantees.

Now an applicant must have only eight years' residency, reasonable fluency in German and prove he can support a family without state assistance. But the bureaucratic obstacles to citizenship remain damning.

Germany's long-standing refusal to integrate foreigners, many Turks argue, has contributed to the tense climate of racial antagonism in post-unification Germany. More than 30 foreigners, many of them Turks, have been killed in arson attacks since 1990. Eighteen attacks have occurred this year, causing four deaths and seven injuries.

The racial violence has aggravated serious strains in Germany's relations with Turkey, which claims Bonn is not doing enough to protect Turks here.

"Wherever we go, we tend to burrow in deeply," the Turkish interior minister, Meral Aksener, said last month. "And since they could not throw us out, the Germans are trying to burn us out."

Her remarks outraged the Bonn government, which noted police findings that some arson attacks were carried out by feuding foreigners, not by racist Germans. Nonetheless, the episode helped rekindle debate here about the need to heal a breach in relations with foreigners who feel consigned to second-class status.

"The situation is becoming very alarming," said Mr. Ozdemir, the member of Parliament. "Many of the young Turkish Germans who were born here feel completely rejected by this society. So they are turning toward religious fanaticism or nationalistic movements that one day could tear this country apart."

Young members of Mr. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union share Mr. Ozdemir's sense of urgency about giving young foreigners a larger stake in German society. They believe the time has come for a dramatic break with the blood inheritance principle.

Horst Eylmann, a Christian Democratic legislator, said: "It has to be in our interests not to leave these young people out in the cold, but to lead them to take on responsibilities toward Germany. If they are born here, go to school here, train for a job h ere, they should automatically be German."

But the reformists face fierce opposition from Teutonic purists in their own ruling party and in the Bavarian Christian Social Union. Opponents contend that at a time when a record high 4.7 million Germans are out of work, it would be foolish politically and economically to offer the benefits of German citizenship to millions of foreigners.

"We believe it is completely unacceptable that millions of our citizens are unemployed while more than a million work permits are issued to foreigners each year," said Michael Glos, the Bavarian party's parliamentary chief.

But the work permits are for the manual labor jobs that Germans are reluctant to take or consider to be beneath them.

Both sides say the emotional debate can be resolved only by the highest political authority. Until now, Mr. Kohl has generally sided with the conservative argument, emphasizing the need to preserve Germany's Teutonic identity from the influences of immigrants. He has not indicated what kind of law he would be willing to support.

But Mr. Ozdemir and his allies are hopeful that the chancellor's position will ultimately be swayed by a private, family affair: Mr. Kohl's son Peter, 32, has just become engaged to Elif Sozen, the daughter of a prominent Istanbul businessman.

Tim Brakemeier/Agence France-Presse

Cem Ozdemir, the first Turkish German to be elected to Parliament.

TV: *Digital Viewing Is Wave of the Future*

Continued from Page 1

sions of this prototype set, he points out, will be smaller but just as sharp.

His view has the backing of the television-manufacturing industry, which has been promoting HDTV for more than a decade.

"I believe in high-definition TV more than any consumer electronic product, more than the VCR," said Gary Shapiro, president of the Consumer Electronic Manufacturers Association. "People will love the wide screen, the crisp picture, the surround stereo sound."

But Mr. Mundie, a senior vice president at Microsoft Corp., thinks few consumers really want such pretty pictures, at least not at the price that set manufacturers are projecting for their first HDTV models — from $3,500 to $5,000 a set.

Instead, Microsoft and others in the computer industry have begun a campaign to persuade broadcasters to abandon HDTV and transmit multiple channels-within-a-channel of lesser-quality digital pictures, as well as electronic data that can be easily and inexpensively displayed on computer monitors and other receivers that are smaller and less expensive than HDTV consoles. By doing this, they say, digital broadcasting will catch on far faster than HDTV will.

The emerging industrial brawl between television manufacturers and computer makers has huge stakes. Americans spent $19 billion on computers and $10 billion on TV sets last year, according to the Consumer Electronic Manufacturers Association.

Caught in the middle of this fight are broadcasters. At the moment, many are leaning toward HDTV, but there's no real industry consensus nor government requirement to offer strictly high-definition broadcasts.

Some networks, notably CBS and NBC, said they would be ready to offer their popular programs, including prime-time movies and sitcoms like "Seinfeld," in high-definition format by late next year. Others, such as ABC, haven't committed to a set schedule. Cynics point out that the pictures may become sharper but the programs themselves might not get any better.

Still others, such as the media baron Rupert Murdoch, doubt that there is much economic foundation for land-based digital broadcasting at all. Mr. Murdoch is backing a venture that proposes to send digital pictures from earth-orbiting satellites.

Set manufacturers, who once suggested that HDTV sets would cost about $2,500, now say the starting price will be more than twice that for a true high-definition set with roughly a 40-inch diagonal picture. But they aren't worried that that's beyond the reach of all but the wealthiest couch potatoes. Prices, they said, will come down quickly as sales grow and production gears up.

"When the first color TVs came out in 1953, they cost about the same as a Chevy," said Bruce Allen, vice president of technology for Thomson Consumer Electronics, the French-owned maker of RCA sets. "The consumers we've questioned have not questioned the price. Their only question is, 'When can we get one?' "

Even if that is true, it could still take years for high-definition televisions to catch on with a significant portion of the population.

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Kabila on Notice

By a cruel refugee policy, Laurent Kabila, the rebel leader in Zaire, is spoiling much of the friendly reception he might otherwise hope to reap in his country and abroad for ousting Mobutu Sese Seko. If his African and European sympathizers do not prevail on him to respect international norms, there will be scant reason to think he will be any improvement on the fading longtime dictator.

The problem arises from the mostly Hutu Rwandans, who, after conducting genocide against Tutsi in 1994, were chased out — offending militias and innocent citizens alike — into eastern Zaire. Mr. Kabila's political base there lies among Tutsi, and his advancing forces have been conducting what the aid agencies and others find to be a pattern of anti-Hutu abuses verging on "ethnic cleansing." The refugees are being killed in the hundreds and "disappeared," denied humanitarian relief from the international agencies, kept from being airlifted back to Rwanda and driven ever deeper into inhospitable terrain. The UN secretary-general accuses the rebels of "killing by starvation." The other day an isolated camp that had held about 50,000 or more sick and exhausted Hutu was found to be completely empty.

The Kabila elements on the cutting edge of this abuse of refugees profess to be hunting down killer Hutu soldiers and militiamen who cynically use refugees as their human shields against attack and as their respectable front in cadging international aid. But such a practice, to the extent that it goes on, is no excuse for the depredations of the Kabila forces. They have a responsibility to act toward civilians in a way consistent with the rules of war, as difficult as that is under the conditions of ethnic conflict that exist in Zaire and central Africa.

Their failure to do so leaves Mr. Kabila himself to be held accountable. He is, after all, no longer just a leader of insurrectionary forces. He is a claimant to leadership of a large, sovereign state. The U.S. State Department, among others, has put Mr. Kabila on notice that Zaire will need international solicitude and support in abundance if he comes to power. Right now he is flinging away his chances of getting it.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Danger in Croatia

Croatia, like many other countries, has a neo-Nazi fringe, complete with ethnic hatred, nationalist symbols and a fascist salute. The danger in Croatia, however, does not come from this small group of extremists but from the more sophisticated leaders in the country's mainstream who share their desire for a larger, ethnically pure Croatia. While attention has been focused on Slobodan Milosevic in Serbia, Croatian nationalism is probably more dangerous to Balkan peace.

Extreme nationalism is prominent in Croatia not because most Croats endorse it — they do not — but because the nationalists intimidate their opponents. They are also rich, thanks to smuggling and the support of hard-line Croatian émigrés. The nationalists are powerful enough that President Franjo Tudjman's Croatian Democratic Union party has taken one of the four small neo-Nazi parties as a coalition partner. Extremists also control the right wing of Mr. Tudjman's party.

The wing's leader, Defense Minister Gojko Susak, is Mr. Tudjman's closest adviser and may well become president after Mr. Tudjman, who has cancer, dies.

Mr. Tudjman's regime has revived some of the symbols and ideology of World War II Croatia. The era is attractive to many Croats because it was the first time in centuries that Croatia was an independent nation. But the state was a Nazi ally whose collaborators, known as the Ustashe, killed hundreds of thousands of partisans, Serbs and Jews.

The larger danger is that the nationalists in the government, who are often supported by Mr. Tudjman, want to extend Croatia to encompass all ethnically Croatian areas. This squeezes Bosnia, and threatens the Bosnian-Croat military alliance that can keep the Bosnian Serbs in check. The crucial area is the city of Mostar. Under the peace accords, it is supposed to be governed as a unified city by Croats and Muslims. Instead, it resembles Cold War Berlin.

Mostar is in Bosnia, but Mr. Tudjman treats the Croatian side as part of Croatia and keeps close ties to the thugs who run it. He kicked off this year's Croatian election with a trip to Mostar. Croatia's currency circulates there. Mr. Tudjman could sack Mostar's leaders and keep his pledge to integrate the area into the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina. He apparently chooses not to.

The Croatian government also continues to block ethnic Serbs from returning to parts of Croatia where they lived. It has harbored Bosnian Croats indicted by the international war crimes tribunal for directing massacres. Mr. Tudjman even gave one of them a post in the Croatian Army and a medal.

Mr. Tudjman is not immune to pressure from the West. When he was threatened with losing important loans, he persuaded one of the indicted Croats to turn himself over to the tribunal. Yet the United States, Germany and other European countries have squandered repeated chances to press him to restrain his and his allies' nationalism.

Mr. Tudjman and his party owe much to the West, which built up Croatia's military to fight the Serbs. Retired American soldiers trained Croatia's army. Washington has become more critical of Mr. Tudjman since 1995. With the war over it needed him less. In addition, his defiance of unfavorable election results and his attempts to control the press have grown more blatant.

But Croatia is still flooded with loans from international institutions. Until the law was softened late last year, Washington was required to oppose such loans if Croatia harbored indicted war criminals. The United States never did so, but officials now are rightly threatening to block a major pending loan if Croatia does not turn over an indicted criminal it has arrested. This is welcome, but Washington can and should do more to persuade Mr. Tudjman to democratize, control the Mostar warlords and anoint a moderate successor.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Bringing Up Baby

At an unusual White House conference earlier this month, scientists, doctors and sociologists discussed new evidence that speaking to very young infants has a profound effect on brain development and the ability to learn. There could be no more compelling argument for an expansion of support for new parents and of high-quality child care programs.

Studies have long stressed the importance of early intervention, from prenatal care to preschool, to promote the healthy development of children. But many people have accepted the notion that, by the time a baby is born, the brain has been genetically determined and what is most needed in the first few months is love and care. Research by neuroscientists, however, shows that after birth, experience counts even more than genetics. The way in which billions of brain cells make connections and develop into networks that enable children to become smart, creative and adaptable depends, to a remarkable extent, on how an infant is nurtured. Infants are stimulated by a range of sights, sounds, touches and smells. But language and eye contact are most important to the complex process of brain development. The language does not have to be esoteric. Constant chatter from a caring adult is what counts most.

That means young children will fare better with caregivers who are verbal and patient. It also means some parents will need more help in understanding the process of building active, curious, healthy young minds.

President Bill Clinton offered no new programs but pointed to existing federally supported efforts to help parents, including health, immunization and nutrition programs. Some business leaders at the conference acknowledged the importance of giving parents of newborns time off as encouraged by the 1993 Family and Medical Leave Act.

Some states have created programs to help children right from birth. All states need to recognize that, during the critical early years, children require not just caretakers, but quality caregivers.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Expand NATO? The Senate Should Just Say No

By Thomas L. Friedman

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration is about to embark on the biggest celebrity hostage-taking since the Tupac Amaru guerrillas rounded up 600 dignitaries in Peru. The Clinton team is going to take the entire U.S. Senate hostage.

You can see why if you just review Wednesday's testimony by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Secretary of Defense William Cohen before the Senate Armed Services Committee. This was the first time top Clinton officials testified in full on their plans for expanding NATO to Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and ultimately up to the Russian border. Mrs. Albright and Mr. Cohen got a thoroughly bipartisan reception from the senators: bipartisan skepticism.

The senators asked different versions of the same three questions: How could the administration say NATO expansion would erase the dividing line in Europe, when it was only creating a new one? How could it say expanding NATO to the Russian border wasn't anti-Russian, when it obviously is? How could it say expanding NATO won't dilute the alliance's power and coherence, when it obviously will?

Senator John Warner spoke for many in the room when he said of NATO: "I come from the school that if it's not broken, why try and fix it?" And remember, this was a committee of "know-somethings." Imagine what happens when the "know-nothings" in Congress start debating expansion, which could cost alliance members $40 billion and involve committing U.S. troops to nations few people know.

No wonder Mrs. Albright sighed after hearing the doubting senators. "In listening to you," she said, "there is no question that we have a very difficult job ahead of us" to win Senate ratification.

And that's why I think the Clintonites will resort to hostage-taking. NATO expansion was driven largely by a Clinton desire to attract East European ethnic votes in the '96 election. It was hatched by a tiny group in the administration and never properly debated. The Pentagon brass always thought it was a harebrained idea.

But now that the election is over, Clintonites are unwilling to back down. So their secret strategy is to force through expansion at the July 8 NATO summit meeting and then say to the Senate: "Boys and girls, it's too late. Sure, maybe NATO expansion isn't a perfect idea. But if we pull back now, having given our promise, American credibility — yes, the big C-word — will be irreparably damaged. A vote against ratifying expansion is a vote for damaging U.S. credibility. You are hostages to our commitments."

We are already paying a price for this approach. Witness last week's summit meeting between the Russian and Chinese presidents, which was driven in part by Russia's desire to counter NATO's expansion by drawing closer to China. The Clinton administration is pursuing reverse Kissingerism: Instead of trying to play Russia and China off against each other, it is driving them closer together by expanding NATO. Russia and China signed a troop limitation pact that sets strict limits along their 4,000-mile border and will enable China to redirect some forces toward South Asia — hardly a U.S. interest.

Yes, even without NATO expansion Russia might be cozying up to China or Iran. But the degree to which Russia moves in that direction, and America's ability to inhibit it, will be a function of the overall U.S.-Russia relationship.

And to say that relationship will not be eroded by expanding a Cold War alliance to Russia's border is to speak nonsense. I have no problem aggravating the Russians, but let's get something for it, and we get nothing for NATO expansion but a bill.

The Senate can resist being taken hostage. The administration's argument that America will lose credibility is bogus. Notes the foreign policy expert Michael Mandelbaum: "The 'credibility' argument is a Cold War argument, which said that we should never back down from a promise, no matter how ridiculous, because we were engaged in a global conflict with a militant, militarized adversary, and any sign of backing down in one region would be taken advantage of by the Communists in another. That was plausible when we were up against global communism.

"It's not plausible today. The world is now safe to correct American mistakes in foreign policy."

The Senate should opt for a Reaganesque solution — Nancy Reagan — "Just Say No."

The New York Times.

Eastern Europe's Security Is the Real Issue

By Olav Riste

OSLO — In the lengthy and occasionally high-pitched debate about NATO expansion, it is becoming increasingly rare to find reference to the original starting point — the wish of the new democracies of Eastern Europe to establish a basis for their long-term national security.

That, however, is the real issue. To talk about NATO expansion as something that the current member states favor — or don't favor — sidetracks the debate, and plays into the hands of Russian internal politics. The right and duty of independent nations to provide for their security is the foundation of the expansion issue, and it is important that this not be obfuscated by the imaginary or real fears of Russian politicians.

It is good to remember that if Soviet objections had been the determining factor in 1949, when the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was founded, then Norway, and probably Denmark and Iceland, would have been barred from membership.

This is not to say that Russian concerns can be dismissed as just so much bluster. Russia's difficult transition from its Soviet imperial past to something we hope will become a stable and democratic state is a major aim in the construction of a post-Cold War international order. This is a process that must take time, and it is necessary for both NATO members and candidate states to take Russian sensibilities into account. But it is clearly unreasonable to expect European security politics to remain on hold in the meantime.

Allowing Russian politics to determine the security situation of the former Soviet satellites would also be a disservice to Russia itself. It is therefore about time to tell the Russians that if they persist in warning of the dire effects of letting the Eastern European countries into NATO, their arguments will backfire.

If Russia's progress toward stability is so uncertain that Polish, Czech and Hungarian membership in NATO can throw the process into reverse, then Eastern Europe will indeed need to seek guarantees, not just as a shelter against an uncertain future but specifically for security against Russia.

Any movement down that road would also diminish the willingness of the Eastern European states to take Russian interests into account, for example by combining membership in NATO with certain confidence-building measures.

By crying wolf about NATO expansion, Russia's spokesmen in fact run the risk of calling forth the ghost of the Cold War.

It is therefore time for responsible Russian leaders to tell the troublemakers at home — as Andrei Kozyrev, the former foreign minister, has tried to do — that the best way to ensure good relations with their neighbors is to accept the neighbors' right to choose their own road to national security, and to replace the echoes of Russia's imperial past with gestures of cooperation.

A good model would be the way Stalin's Soviet Union managed to turn a state of belligerency with Finland into a friendly and cooperative relationship in the space of a few years. In the tense climate of the Cold War, NATO membership was never in the cards for Finland. But Finland's place in the West was never in question.

Membership in NATO has lost its anti-Soviet rationale — at least so long as the Russian leadership does not, through shortsighted politicking, succeed in calling up a ghost.

The writer, director of research at Norway's Institute for Defense Studies, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

In Japan, the Old One-Party System Seems Back in the Saddle

By Fred Hiatt

WASHINGTON — Not quite four years ago, Japan seemed on the threshold of a new era. The party that had ruled for two generations had been thrown out of office, and a real transfer of power was taking place.

Yet when Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto visited the White House for his first Washington summit meeting on Friday, he was standing at the head of that same old ruling party, the Liberal Democrats. The politician who had tried to bring two-party politics to Japan — Ichiro Ozawa, Mr. Hashimoto's former comrade and at one time the most powerful man in Japanese politics — was back home in Tokyo, heading a dwindling band of forlorn oppositionists. The Liberal Democrats, who had run Japan almost uninterrupted since the end of the U.S. postwar occupation, looked as entrenched as ever.

Japan's apparent return to one-party dominance — apparent because not everyone believes it will last — holds great significance for U.S.-Japan relations and also for other democracies where one party holds sway — Mexico, for example, or South Africa. And it contains the compelling story of Mr. Ozawa himself, a power broker turned reformer for whom things haven't turned out as expected.

In his new book, "Shadow Shoguns: The Rise and Fall of Japan's Postwar Political Machine," Jacob Schlesinger says Mr. Ozawa may go down in history as "a kind of Japanese Gorbachev." Both bravely tried to spark reform from comfortable positions of power, and both were cast aside — at least, in Mr. Ozawa's case, for now — by the processes they helped set in motion.

In another way, though, the two men are opposites. Mikhail Gorbachev initiated reform in an effort to save the system and his Communist Party's unchallenged rule; he ended up helping to destroy the system, the party and his nation as well, but he certainly never meant to. Mr. Ozawa, on the other hand, wanted to blow up Japan's one-party system — but may have succeeded only in blowing up his own perch.

"It's a kind of tragedy, really," says former Japanese ambassador to Moscow Koji Watanabe. "Those in his closest entourage one by one have become his enemies."

As supreme LDP power broker, Mr. Ozawa never became prime minister, but he helped determine who did, and he often told the nominal leaders what to do. In those days, a triumvirate of conservative interests — the ruling party, a competent and honest bureaucracy and a thriving big-business community — ran Japan, and most Japanese seemed satisfied with the results.

But as Japan's go-go 1980s gave way to its go-slow '90s, Mr. Ozawa became convinced that Japan's closed, cozy, highly regulated system couldn't cope with the challenges of globalization. It couldn't foster the creativity, leadership or entrepreneurship which Japanese society lacked. Japan, he said, needed a third revolution — as sweeping as the Meiji reforms that had opened Japan to the world a century before, and as the U.S.-led democratization that followed World War II.

Mr. Ozawa's calls for change resonated with the Japanese public. When a heart attack in 1991 propelled him, at age 49, to the very un-Japanese step of renouncing liquor and cigarettes, that furthered his image as new-style pol. In 1993 he abandoned the LDP over which he'd held sway, formed a new party and — again as the power behind the prime ministership — led it to victory.

The new regime lasted only eight months, brought down by old corruption charges and new internal dissension. Mr. Ozawa's party moved into opposition and, in elections last year, placed a distant second to the LDP — which won on an Ozawa platform, pledging reform. "We destroyed ourselves, through dissension and confusion," he said during a recent interview in his Tokyo office.

Now, Mr. Ozawa says, he'd like to move into the "conclusive phase" of realignment. What does that mean? Because he and Mr. Hashimoto now agree, at least officially, on almost every major issue, from reform to the U.S.-Japan security relationship, he may be contemplating remarriage, with a more pacifist, left-wing party as opposition.

But Mr. Ozawa has alienated even many of his allies with his autocratic style. And the LDP has become more single-mindedly devoted to dominance than ever.

The process Mr. Ozawa set in motion eventually may produce the result he sought, although maybe not in time for him. He says he always knew one election wouldn't do it. But the sidelining of political realignment, at least for now, calls into question Japan's ability to carry out other reforms that everyone agrees it needs to deregulate and open up its economy and, along the way, to make life easier for would-be U.S. exporters. Both types of reform, after all, call for a voluntary ceding of power — by the LDP, in one case, and by the triumvirate of the LDP, the bureaucracy and the special interests in the other. And, as Mr. Ozawa has learned, no one cedes power easily, even when the nation's future is at stake.

The Washington Post.

Charity Can't Bridge the Chasm

By Mario M. Cuomo

NEW YORK — What a dazzling array of ideas and proposals made up the extravaganza in Philadelphia called the Presidents' Summit for America's Future!

Americans helping Americans out of a deep compassion for the disadvantaged, especially for the 15 million children at risk.

"A new way of doing business" (in the words of the summit meeting's organizers) that will, by the year 2000, give at least 2 million of these children better health, better education, a better chance at a good job, safer places to live and work and even better relationships with their parents or mentors.

No one will be taxed to pay for it, nor will there be any grubby partisan politics. Any political benefits will redound to both major parties. And maybe most appealing of all, on the outside of the brightly wrapped package for all to see, these words are emblazoned: "The Era of Big Government Is Over."

There is no doubt that the Philadelphia gathering will be well-received by the American people and that it will do some good. The idea of volunteerism is an irradicably American tradition. Americans have been marvelously generous with their own time, ideas and resources for more than 200 years. Think of the countless groups already at work: religious organizations, foundations, corporations, not-for-profits such as the American Red Cross — not to mention volunteer firemen who risk their lives for their neighbors simply because it's a good thing to do.

Indeed, for more than most of our history, much of what we Americans now call social services were provided by private charities. Long before welfare, unemployment insurance, Medicaid, Medicare or even a public school system, people in need were helped by charities or not at all.

So a well-organized, highly motivated bipartisan effort to stimulate further our instinct for mutual aid and community activity is an intelligent and useful appeal to the better angels of our nature.

But there is the danger we will feel so good about being good to one another privately that we will be tempted to believe government does not need to do anything more. The summiteers' own statements make appallingly clear how great is the need for help.

They mention millions of children at risk and 40 million poor people in America. They mention the need for better education and skills training. There are estimates that just to repair public school buildings around the nation we will need nearly $100 billion.

The summiteers mention better health: More than 40 million Americans are without health care insurance. Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress admit the lives of many children will be ruined unless they are given access to early and regular health care.

The reason America went from almost purely private social services to welfare, food stamps, unemployment insurance, Medicaid, Medicare, public schools and a highway system was not because we stopped being charitable. It was because the size of our population, the density of its gathering and the nature of the problems of industrialization created greater needs than charity alone could meet.

Private effort should come before we use government to serve a need: Government is best used only where private effort is inadequate.

But private effort is clearly inadequate to do what we have to do to make any real progress in dealing with the vast, complicated, rooted problems associated with poverty.

Ask the operators of the soup kitchen at New York City's Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Ask the Ohio Hunger Task Force, which feeds 10,000 Americans each year. They will tell you the truth: Of course, the summit meeting is a good thing; of course, we will profit from the encouragement and even from a little prodding. But American charities, at their very best, can build a bridge only a short part of the way across the chasm.

The rest must be done by the real ultimate form of volunteerism, our government, which after all is not something apart from the people, but is rather the coming together of Americans to decide how best to handle common problems with common resources.

If both parties in Congress can agree to waste $50 billion on so-called corporate welfare; if our Congress says we can afford hundreds of billions of dollars in tax cuts, and if we can afford to give our richest Americans Social Security and Medicare payments they don't need, how can we refuse to build the bridge all the way from here to decency?

Mario Cuomo is the former governor of New York state. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: 'Cent Kilos' Club

PARIS — The members of the "Cent Kilos" Club, proud of their weight and splendid health, have decided to show themselves to the Parisians. On May 6, they will leave the headquarters of the club, and after carefully testing the springs of the carriages, will take a long drive through the city. No doubt Parisians will be pleased to see the members of the "Cent Kilos," but will they have a thought for the horses which are going to drag the heavily-loaded carriages up the steep avenue de Versailles?

1922: Negro Progress

PARIS — The Hampton Institute, Virginia, brought into clear light some facts regarding the progress of the negro in America since the abolition of slavery. This progress is largely due to the public spirit of the white people of the South, although Northern philanthropy has been a noble aid. Taxes in the South devoted to education of the negroes amounted last year to $13,000,000. In half a century the farms that they own have increased in number from 20,000 to 1,000,000, amounting now to 20,000,000 acres.

1947: Easing Travel

GENEVA — The experts' conference on passports and frontier formalities has issued its report to be presented to the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The report contains some forty recommendations for simplification of passport and visa requirements, of currency control and customs and health inspection at frontiers to make travel easier. However, the conference decided it was not yet possible to return to the pre-1914 regime of complete freedom of travel.

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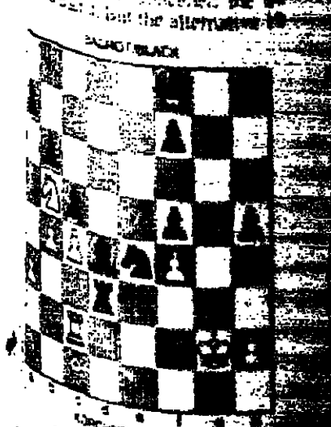


OPINION/LETTERS

Yeltsin's New Golden Boy In the Kremlin Snake Pit

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — He speaks English well, in a quiet, deferential tone. His age is 37. He is slim, dark-eyed and telegenic.

He is a physicist drawn into politics by his opposition to a nuclear power station, who won a seat in the last Soviet Parliament as a foe of the Communists. After standing with Boris Yeltsin against coup plotters in 1991, he was rewarded with appointment as governor of the Nizhni Novgorod region — once the notorious closed city of Gorky, where the troublesome were sent into internal exile.

He wore sweaters and jeans to the office and was early in denouncing the war in Chechnya. In privatizing state-owned businesses, he followed the economic policies of the reformist Grigori Yavlinsky rather than the apparatchik-pleasing methods of Anatoli Chubais; in so doing, he gained the confidence of the World Bank and turned his region into the reform center of Russia.

Boris Nemtsov was plucked out of the blue in March by the resuscitated President Boris Yeltsin to serve, along with Mr. Chubais, as first deputy prime minister.

That thrust Mr. Nemtsov into a snake pit of intrigue. Mr. Chubais is seeking to oust the wealthy Viktor Chernomyrdin, who was made prime minister when Mr. Yeltsin needed the financial support of the former Communist bankers and industrialists who have been stealing Russia blind. Mr. Chubais, a renegade reformer despised for his insider compromises by purer democrats, is blamed by most Russians for the giveaways of state businesses and could not be elected wolf catcher.

Neither could the stolid Mr. Chernomyrdin, whose only loyal constituent is Vice President Al Gore. Both unpopular Yeltsin appointees had recently reached a standoff over control of the richest jewel in the Kremlin crown: the oil-gas-power monopolies, the oligopoly that is the source of Mr. Chernomyrdin's strength.

Then Mr. Yeltsin pulled one of his famous fast ones. Instead of letting either of the two control the resources, he crossed up both by appointing Mr. Nemtsov, still wet behind his Kremlin ears, to run the crucial "natural" monopolies.

This was pleasing to the people, who have vaulted Mr. Nemtsov to the top of the polls, largely because of his opening stunt in stripping bureaucrats of perks and demanding all government limousines be Russian-made.

It also pleased Mr. Yavlinsky, the only reformer who is building a grassroots political party for the long haul. Mr. Yavlinsky, whose Yabloko bloc is supportive of today's policy but remains independent of the regime, pledged to supply Mr. Nemtsov with expert staff and recommendations to decentralize economic power and break up the stagnating monopolies.

How long does the new man's writ run? Mr. Yeltsin is a past master at riding others' popularity. His last horse was General Alexander Lebed, whom he pushed forward with TV exposure at election time to split the nationalist vote, appointed to a high post with much fanfare, then jettisoned when he acted uppity. General Lebed suddenly finds himself tied for "most trusted" in polls with Mr. Yeltsin's new favorite.

Curiously, in a country where Jews are a tiny minority and anti-Semitism is widespread, Mr. Nemtsov's Jewish roots have not hurt him politically. Perhaps that's because he has plenty of company in government: the loony Vladimir Zhirinovsky tries to hide his Jewish ancestry, while Mr. Yavlinsky does not.

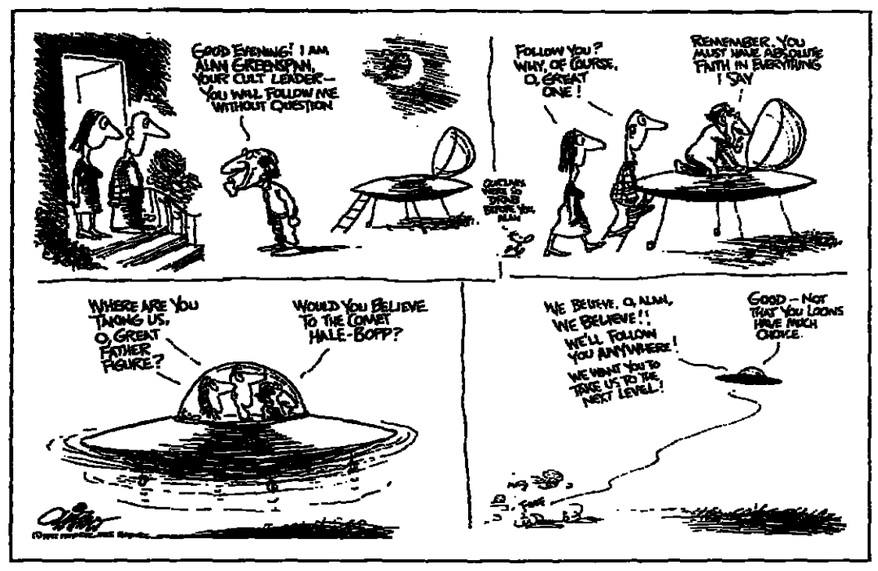
Mr. Chubais is rumored to have a Jewish parent, but says nothing, and the spymaster who is now foreign minister changed his name from Finkelstein to Primakov to conceal his background.

Could the Pushkinesque Mr. Nemtsov make it all the way?

Maybe he is being set up by Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Chubais for a wild ride and a sharp fall. The job could be too big for any one man with derivative power.

At the same time, when his friend Mr. Yavlinsky warned him against joining "a whole detachment of well-fixed kamikazes," Mr. Nemtsov smiled and replied, "A kamikaze can live for a very long time."

The New York Times.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Business Bribery

Reginald Dale's article on bribery (*"Foreign Bribery Should Be a Crime," Thinking Ahead, April 4*) misses a point that has also seemed to escape many European business executives and government officials: Bribery isn't a good deal.

Those who accept bribes can get caught, imprisoned and sometimes executed. The recipients may have overstated their influence. They sometimes are demoted or fired, or they quit. In short, they often don't deliver. There are countless cases where companies paying bribes have lost a sale after being caught. Sometimes they are banned from selling to anyone in the country. Bad press damages their credibility both at home and abroad.

When investing in an already risky foreign venture, does it make good business sense to compound that risk by paying bribes?

Most American companies will acknowledge that they now embrace the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, despite an initial period of skepticism. These companies are now freed from having to make the risky decision of whether to bribe. They can sell based on quality, rather than praying that their bribe-laden benefactor doesn't get caught or defect. When asked for a bribe, they can defend themselves by saying it is illegal. European businesses deserve to have the same protection.

Countries should ban bribery because of the morality. If for no other reason, businesses should stop paying bribes because of the inordinate risk it adds to any foreign sale or investment.

THOMAS L. BOAM.
Dusseldorf.

Defending Spanglish

Regarding "No Gracias, and No Thanks" (Opinion, March 29) by Roberto Gonzalez-Echevarria:

While efforts to preserve a language in its country of origin are laudable, Mr. Gonzalez-Echevarria seems more concerned about keeping Spanish "pure" in the Western Hemisphere, which had no native Spanish speakers.

Immigrants, he should remember, tend to add to their language when they move to a new country; as much as Europeans tried, they found that they could not eliminate a people's language without eliminating the people. So we have people who are descended from the natives of the Western Hemisphere or other non-Spanish people, who learn second-hand Spanish, and while they're at it, learn words from other languages. Since the other major language in the Western Hemisphere is American English, we have Spanglish.

If Mr. Gonzalez-Echevarria cannot accept this he should go to Spain where, perhaps, he will feel more at home.

ALLEN L. BROCK.
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Yes, Tara Is a Role Model

Regarding "A Real Role Model Would Stay In School" (Opinion, March 26) by Richard Cohen.

In contrast to Mr. Cohen, I believe that Tara Lipinski, the 14-year-old ice-skating champion, is a worthy role model not only for youngsters but also for adults. I became acquainted with Tara and her family a few years ago and can say her grit and determination are an inspiration. Would that we all had such tenacity!

Critics say Tara is damaging her body with rigorous training and ruining her mind by using tutors instead of attending school. These critics, noting Tara's "wee" stature, fail to realize that she comes by it naturally: Tiny Tara has a tiny mother. As for her education, it is obvious that her parents are doing their very best to ensure Tara acquires the best schooling possible.

Tara is pursuing her dream, not her parents', with a gusto and a drive that most of us would do well to apply to our own dreams. Tara is one of my heroes.

CAROL A. CAVANAUGH.
Perugia, Italy.

Born of a 63-Year-Old, A Truly Wanted Child

By Marcia Angell

BOSTON — To any middle-aged mother, having a baby at age 63 probably seems like a colossally bad idea.

The constant backache, the 2 A.M. feedings and the endless diaper changes — didn't nature arrange for us to stop doing this sort of thing after our mid-40s?

MEANWHILE

But nature has been overruled. It has recently been announced that a 63-year-old woman gave birth late last year to a healthy baby girl.

A doctor implanted into her hormonally primed uterus an embryo created in a test tube with her husband's sperm and a young donor's egg. The woman's doctor, Richard Paulson, said she had lied about her age to get around his limit of 55 years for in vitro fertilization.

The 63-year-old woman was not the first postmenopausal woman to have a baby, only the oldest. In the past several years, doctors have pushed the age barrier higher and higher. So we now must contemplate the curious possibility of women on Medicare, the health insurance program for the elderly, becoming pregnant.

Many people are probably offended, even repelled, by postmenopausal women having babies. To them, it seems somehow unethical; they believe that if a woman doesn't know any better, her doctor should. There will probably be calls to regulate this technology and keep women of a certain age from receiving in vitro fertilization.

This would be a mistake. Why is it wrong for a woman in her 60s to have a baby? If the technology exists, why shouldn't she take advantage of it? For a healthy woman who is willing to take the medical risk of being pregnant at an advanced age, it may be her last chance to become a mother.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

Many people will object that it is unnatural for postmenopausal women to have babies, that it is a perverse use of a technology that has been widely accepted for younger women since 1978. To these critics, women in their 60s are simply too old to become good mothers.

But all sorts of women who, by nearly anyone's standards, are extremely unlikely to be fit mothers can choose to have babies, including teenagers, drug abusers and the homeless.

Some people also point out that an older mother is less likely than a younger mother to live long enough to raise her children to adulthood. But any responsible mother, young or old, should make provisions for the care of her baby should she die before her child is grown. A postmenopausal woman who is willing to have a baby is especially likely to do so.

Much of the distaste for older women having babies, I suspect, is age and sex discrimination masquerading as ethical concerns.

Why is older motherhood seen as so distasteful?

Many of us feel uncomfortable when old people behave in unexpected ways, like deciding to have babies.

Our expectations are more restrictive for older women than for older men. We are more likely to react to older men becoming fathers with amused tolerance rather than disapproval.

One thing is clear: Women in their 50s and 60s who are willing to undergo the rigors of pregnancy, childbirth and child-rearing must really want to be mothers. Their children will be greatly cherished in a world where many children are not and where many young women have babies with scarcely a thought.

If an older woman still wants to become pregnant after the risks are explained to her, I see no good reason not to help her.

The writer, executive editor of The New England Journal of Medicine, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

BOOKS

BOGART

By A.M. Sperber and Eric Lax. Illustrated. 676 pages. $27.50. William Morrow & Co.

BOGART: A LIFE IN HOLLYWOOD

By Jeffrey Meyers. Illustrated. 369 pages. $30. A Peter Davison Book/Houghton Mifflin Co.

Reviewed by
Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

WHY only now, 40 years after his death, are we finally getting two major biographies of Humphrey Bogart: "Bogart," by A.M. Sperber and Eric Lax, and "Bogart: A Life in Hollywood," by Jeffrey Meyers? One can only speculate. To judge from these two books, part of the reason may be that Bogart's career was so visible, not only because of the scores of films he made and the gossip that the Hollywood publicity machine ground out, but also because of the many memoirs published by his friends, family members and professional associates, ranging from the director John Huston to Lauren Bacall, Bogart's fourth wife.

Another explanation may be that collective memory has only lately begun to gain perspective on the era in which Bogart was a star. This was the time of studio domination, when Warner Brothers cranked out films involving tough-guy urban characters so perfected by Bogart that even when he eventually played a different type, like Charlie Allnut in "The African Queen" or Captain Queeg in "The Caine Mutiny," part of the appeal of his performance was the contrast.

Still another possibility is simple nostalgia for a dramatic form in which, for all the moral ambiguity of the characters Bogart played, the issues of good and evil were clearer. This, at any rate, is the main appeal of reading about Bogart at length in these two exhaustive biographies.

In other respects, Bogart's life seems all too familiar. The details of his privileged background as the eldest child of Dr. Belmont DeForest Bogart and Maud Humphrey, a nationally known illustrator, are not that revealing (although Sperber and Lax do disclose what a dysfunctional family Bogart was raised in). Nor are the events leading to his breakthrough in the role of the sinister Duke Mantee in Robert Sherwood's stage play "The Petrified Forest."

Unsurprising, too, are the major themes of these biographies, Bogart's four stormy romances ("I must have a wife," Meyers quotes Bogart as insisting); his long and exhausting struggle with Warner Brothers for the freedom to play the roles he wanted to, and his near-brush with public disapproval over his stance against the House Committee on Un-American Activities in the early days of the Cold War.

And in neither of these books does the account of Bogart's courageous fight against a fatal esophageal cancer surpass Alistair Cooke's description in his 1957 essay "Humphrey Bogart: Epitaph for a Tough Guy."

No, where both these books become more absorbing is on the sets of the major movies Bogart made.

Which of these two books tells Bogart's story better? Both contain essentially the same material.

What you want, of course, is the quicker, more compelling read, and paradoxically you get it in the longer work, "Bogart," which was begun by Sperber, who wrote "Murrow: His Life and Times," and was taken over at the time of her death in 1994 by Eric Lax, the author of "Woody Allen: A Biography."

Meyers may use fewer words, but too many of them seem beside the point. He fills space with jumbled plot summaries of Bogart's minor movies. He exposes the ugly sides of Bogart, like his tendency to needle people when he was drinking, without first developing a context, thereby making Bogart seem a boring bully. He writes about Bogart's sexual affairs with the trace of a leer.

Lax, by contrast, rarely mentions a plot wrinkle in a Bogart film without relating it to some larger issue. He digs deeper into Bogart's story, as when he interviews Robert Blake about his experience playing the 13-year-old street urchin who sells Bogart a lottery ticket in "Treasure," but such excursions always sharpen the picture of Bogart. The result is altogether smoother and more coherent.

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt is on the staff of The New York Times.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

AT the age of 14 years 2 months, Etienne Bacrot of France, has just won the coveted title of youngest grandmaster ever. In Round 1 in the Enghien, France, International Tournament, he beat Viktor Korchnoi.

The Nimzovich Attack, 2 b3, is a hypermodern opening aimed at control of the center from one wing or sometimes both. After its main development in the '20s, it was rejuvenated by Bent Larsen in the '60s and by Mark Taimanov at the beginning of this decade. Nowadays, it is usually played as a way off the beaten path.

The doubling of the white f pawns with 3...Bf3 gf may be dogmatic, yet it does eliminate White's chief theme of posting a knight at e5.

Bacrot's exchange with 15...de 16 fe straightened the white pawn formation, but it allowed him to begin an attack on the d3 pawn with 16...Rfd8.

On 17...e5, Korchnoi might have tried to limit the black pieces' scope by 18 f5, but 18...gf 19 Bh3 Ne7 20 Bf5 Nf5 21 Rf5 e4! is strong for Black.

The recapture with 19 ef was undesirable because it conceded the d4 square to Bacrot. But the alternative 19 Rf4 could have led to 19...Ne5 20 Bf1 Bh6 21 Rh4 Bg5 22 Rh3 Nfg4 23 Qe1 Qc6 24 e4 (24 Bg2? Qf6! wins a pawn) Bc1 25 Rc1 f5 with clear positional superiority for Black.

After 21 Rb2, 21...Qd3? would have blundered away material to 22 Rd2.

On 22...Bh6, Korchnoi could have tried 23 Rcf2, but 23...Qf6 24 Bh3 Qh4 25 Kg2 Rd4 26 Bf5 gf leaves White facing myriad problems. He acquiesced in a pawn-down ending after 23 Bh3 Qd3 24 Qd3 Rd3, relying on 25 Bf5 gf to nullify the black kingside pawn majority, but he underestimated Bacrot's excellent piece play.

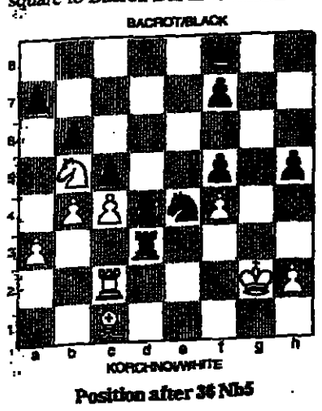
After 36...h4!, Korchnoi could not have held on with 37 Na7. Thus, 37...h3 38 Kf1 Rd1 39 Ke2 Rh1 40 Kf3 Rf1 41 Ke2 Rf2 42 Kd3 Rc2 43 Kc2 Bg1 44 b5 Bh2 45 a4 Bg3 46 a5 h2 47 ab h1/Q 48 b7 Qg2 49 Kb3 Qf3 50 Ka4 Nc3 51 Ka5 Qb7 wins.

But his 37 Nd4 cd 38 Bb2 was demolished by Bacrot's 38...h3 39 Kf1 Rf3 40 Ke1 Re3 41 Kf1 (41 Re2 Rb3! 42 Bc1 Rb1 43 Kd1 Nc3 44 Kc2 Rc1! is no better) d3 42 Rc1 Re2. Korchnoi, facing 43...Rb2, 43...Rh2, plus 43...Nd2 44 Kg1 Rg2 45 Kh1 Nf3, with a mating net, gave up.

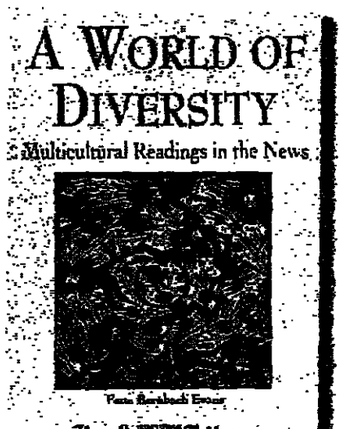
NIMZOVICH ATTACK

White Kor'noi	Black Bacrot	White Kor'noi	Black Bacrot
1 Nf3	d5	22 Rc2	Bh5
2 b3	Bg4	23 Bh3	Qd3
3 Bb2	Bf3	24 Qd3	Rd3
4 gf	Nf6	25 Bf5	gf
5 e3	c5	26 Nc3	Nf6
6 f4	Nc6	27 Bb2	Kf8
7 Bg2	e6	28 Kg2	Re8
8 d3	g6	29 Bc1	Bg7
9 c4	Bg7	30 Rf3	Red8
10 Nc3	0-0	31 b4	Rf3
11 0-0	d4	32 Kf3	Rd3
12 Na4	Qd8	33 Kg2	Ne4
13 Rb1	Rac8	34 Nd5	Bd4
14 Bc1	b6	35 Nc7	h5
15 a3	de	36 Nb5	h4
16 fe	Rfd8	37 Nd4	cd
17 Nb2	e5	38 Bb2	h3
18 Kh1	ef	39 Kf1	Rf3
19 ef	Nd4	40 Ke1	Re3
20 Na4	Nf5	41 Kf1	d3
21 Rb2	Nh5	42 Rc1	Re2
		43 Resigns	

BACROT/BLACK



Position after 36 Nb5



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Style

TOMORROW: STAGE

In the Five Seasons, Anything Goes

Sipa (Princess Caroline); Moore/Thomas (Blumarine, Marc Jacobs); Sotheby's (Frieseke painting)

Clockwise from bottom left: Summer for winter, Princess Caroline in white lace; Blumarine fur-trimmed cardigan; from Saint Laurent, navy and white; Marc Jacobs's summer velvet; the Met's Latvian winter costume, and impressions of summer by Frederick C. Frieseke.

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Like asparagus, salmon or strawberries, fashions now are never out of season. May should be the month to shake out the silks, freshen up the cottons and take out those white shoes put to bed last fall.

Especially the white shoes.

The final death knell for fashion's seasonal etiquette was sounded by Kathleen Turner in the 1994 movie "Serial Mom." She turned her killer instinct on the unpardonable sin of wearing white shoes after Labor Day — and every cinema-goer under 35 chortled at such quaint suburban standards.

In Paris, where May Day is supposed to be the first acceptable moment to wear white, the social barricades had stood firm. But they have finally been breached. A sharp intake of breath greeted Princess Caroline of Monaco when she appeared in a white lace Chanel dress in March (March!) at a formal reception to honor Mstislav Rostropovich.

"The complete abandonment of seasonal etiquette is a phenomenon of the 1990s," said Richard Martin, curator of "The Four Seasons" exhibition at the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum (until Aug. 17). "There are virtually no vestiges of the old rules of dress."

Significantly, the show is orchestrated (and yes, Vivaldi is playing on the sound track) from spring greens, through the white Edwardian summer muslins, leaf patterns for fall and snowballs of winter-white fur, to a fifth season. That is the modern world of "cool wool," lacy knits and the around-the-year bare leg — be it ever so blue, mottled or goose-bumped.

On the walls, quotations from Proust, Shakespeare and etiquette experts like Miss Manners recreate the lost world of seasonal dressing. Our Deportment magazine suggested in 1882 that "for winter, colors should be rich and warm," and the "Book of Etiquette" in 1922 decreed that "summer frocks in their airy flimsiness and gay colors are ideally fitted for ... a lawn party."

But here is Harper's Bazaar in March 1997: "Spring is dead: Cream off the froth ... and what you're really looking at is a roster of clothes you could wear at any time of the year." Hence winter-for-summer shows were filled with velvet or even furry trims, while Dolce & Gabbana's fall collection had rose and cherry prints. Only Yves Saint Laurent, aiming for classic elegance, offered the spring staple of navy and white.

What has happened in fashion to produce the sartorial equivalent of the deep-frozen petits pois or the air-freighted mango?

"It is not incidental that the show has a fiber sponsor," Martin said, referring to the support of Du Pont Tactel nylon. Fabric innovations have transformed the seasonal pattern, for microfiber is as warm as wool and a synthetic-velvet dress seems appropriate for summer.

Central heating and air-conditioning, by providing constant temperatures, have killed the need for clothes as armor against the elements. The Met shows an 1860 ensemble from Latvia — an eiderdown jacket trimmed with feathers. And fashion's defensive role is also emphasized in fashion illustrations of warmly dressed men struggling on a gusty day to control their umbrellas.

The quintessential summer dress — those white muslins and awning stripes of the turn-of-the-century — is depicted among the dabs of dappled leaves in Impressionist paintings. "The Four Seasons," a monograph published alongside the exhibition, shows a Claude Monet seascape, in which flags fly briskly above a pallid dress. That fresh air and escapism appears in modern times as a pink gingham-checked dress from Comme des Garcons or a red-and-white napkin-checked suit (complete with embroidered ants) by Marc Jacobs.

Proust once described a Fortuny dress as "a spring-time decanted, reduced to its essence." That same spirit is captured in a salmon-and-cucumber pleated dress from Issey Miyake, and a gather-ye-rosebuds 18th-century gown.

Witty touches are scattered through the show, which opens with a spring shower: a clear vinyl raincoat sparkling with rhinestone raindrops (by Oscar de la Renta in 1967). It closes with a 1993 sweater dress by Jean Paul Gaultier, where the argyle-pattern knit is deconstructed into a mesh.

MUCH has been gained by overturning rules of etiquette that set fashion in an aspic of pseudo-correctness. Mass travel and winter vacations make nonsense of rigidly defined summer or winter wardrobes. Yet, like the sweet pleasure of the first strawberry of summer, something has been lost by fashion's abandoning nature's scheme of things.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven," says the Bible. And white shoes still belong under a blue sky in cherry-picking time.

Moore/Thomas

At left, glossy black leather coat from Hermes, and Margiela's de-constructed tailoring and flea-market fur wig from his fall show.

Youthquake in Paris: Margiela Joins Hermes

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — In a bold and imaginative gesture that will stun the luxury fashion world, Hermes — a company dedicated to status-symbol silk scarves and leather bags — has appointed as design director Martin Margiela, king of fashion deconstruction and thrift-shop recycling.

The Belgian designer, who just turned 40, will create the ready-to-wear women's collections for Hermes, which had worldwide sales of more than 4 billion French francs ($690 million) in 1996.

Margiela's appointment is a fresh tremor in the youthquake shaking Paris fashion. It follows the news that 25-year-old Stella McCartney is to succeed Karl Lagerfeld at Chloe and fills one of many empty designer seats. They include vacancies at Balmain, Balenciaga, Cerruti and Loewe.

"I am not looking for a revolution, but Hermes has always been an innovator and Martin Margiela has a savoir faire, an attention to detail, a global vision and the ability to project into the future," said Jean-Louis Dumas, president of Hermes, on Monday, adding that he and his new protégé both feel nervous about their collaboration — but in a positive way.

"It's very early. I have to start and see how it is going to work out," said Margiela, whose first collection will be shown in 1998. "We are very flattered. Hermes has to do with quality and tradition and it seems close to our way of being."

Why would high-class Hermes take on Margiela, whose anti-consumerist fashion ethos marked the end of the bravura fashion years in the 1980s? His shows, featuring visible seams, raw hems and recycled jeans (pockets, knee pads and all), have been held on squatters' wasteland or famously in a Salvation Army goods depot in 1992.

More recently, Margiela has been obsessed with the technique of couture. His March show in Paris featured models who tumbled off buses wearing wigs made of recycled flea-market furs. They were serenaded by a brass band as they showed coats in various stages of completion, from the basic canvas through versions with just one sleeve.

But behind the provocative shows, the reclusive Margiela (who refuses to be photographed) is a brilliant technician, passionate about the craft of fashion. His inventive mind is applied to everything from knitwear (often recycled or using boiled wool) to his signature Japanese sock-boots, divided at the toes.

Margiela's flea-market style is really a sophisticated and intricate study of the tailoring of the past to re-create his vision of the future, where the art and craft of couture once again become the cornerstones of fashion. In that, he and Hermes are at one.

"I was not looking for a star to perform in my theater — I want to nourish the style of Hermes," Dumas said. "And I always dream that our signature will be discreet and that the chic of the garment will speak for itself."

That seems hard to reconcile with brassy "H" for Hermes belts, the distinctively whimsical neckties and the new fancy-colored Kelly bags, which are star products. Ready-to-wear clothing accounts for only 13 percent of Hermes sales.

But discretion is certainly Margiela's spirit. His own "designer label" is a square of plain white cotton stitched on at each corner and he is a shadowy and enigmatic presence, wearing a traditional couturier's white smock and signature sailor's cap.

With profits up 13.1 percent in 1996 over the previous year at 404 million francs, Dumas can afford to take a risk — especially since he is keeping one of the previous design team. Thomas Maier, co-designer for Revillon, will continue to work at Hermes on tailoring and leather. He said that Margiela will "give a lot of oxygen."

Margiela, a graduate of the Antwerp Academie des Beaux Arts, and one of the so-called "Antwerp Six" designers in the 1980s, worked as an assistant for Jean Paul Gaultier for three years and launched his first Paris show in 1989. He was the first designer to bring ecology to fashion's cutting edge by stressing the poetry of loved and lived-in clothes — even using photo prints of old clothes on the new. His edgy presentations have included in 1994 a "retrospective" of all his previous work, dyed gray.

The dedication of Margiela and his collaborator Jenny Meirns has been appreciated by forward-looking retailers, although many say off the record that they are maddened by the pretentious presentations.

"I am an absolute fan of Martin's talent and craftsmanship and for his respect for artisanal skills," says Maria Louisa Poumaillou, who stocks Margiela's clothes in her Paris boutique. "But he turns me off completely with his insistence on staying underground and avant-garde. Why does he do those shows that make the clothes so difficult to understand?"

SIMON Doonan, creative director of Barneys in New York, admires the fact that Margiela has "made himself an enigma," describing it as a "carefully orchestrated image that looks nonchalant."

Bonnie Pressman, the fashion director, at Barneys, praises the new appointment as a modern approach.

"It is a real step for Hermes into the next century," she said. "Martin is so right on in his proportions, cuts, tailoring and knitwear. He can be both very classical or avant-garde. I think it is brilliant of Hermes to do this and they'll both get a lot from one another."

Suzy Menkes

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Herald Tribune INTERNATIONAL

BUSINESS/FINANCE

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1997

On-Line Maverick Bets The Farm on the Future

Cisco Strives to Make the Internet Profitable

By Steve Lohr
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — As the leading maker of the networking gear that keeps the Internet running, Cisco Systems Inc. is an Internet company through and through. But recently, Cisco has increased its bet on the Net even further.

The Silicon Valley company not only sells Internet equipment; since last August, it has been selling its gear on the Internet. The results have been impressive and could point the way for businesses to finally turn the World Wide Web into a money-making medium.

Sales from Cisco's site on the Web have reached nearly $5 million a day, a rate in excess of $1.8 billion a year. By July, the company expects the rate to hit $2 billion a year, equal to nearly one-third of its current annual sales.

This on-line order-taking, moreover, is just one of the operations that Cisco has moved onto the Internet. Its credit checking, production scheduling, basic technical support and routine customer-support inquiries are also handled on line. The benefits, Cisco says, are faster service, quicker production cycles and savings — measured in everything from labor costs to printing charges — of $535 million a year.

As one of Northern California's high-tech stars, of course, Cisco can move its business-to-business dealings onto the Internet more readily than many other companies. But Peter Solvik, Cisco's chief information officer, insists that before long, companies in any field will be able to do the same.

"As the Internet gets fully deployed, what we're doing is going to become commonplace," Mr. Solvik said. "Business-to-business commerce is the killer application of the Internet."

The promise of cyberspace has typically been portrayed by technology enthusiasts in visionary terms — a populist vision of on-line shopping, playing games, watching movies and doing homework. No facet of entertainment or education, culture or commerce, and no American household, will be untouched by the technological transformation led by the Internet, the visionaries say.

The personal computer industry is still growing strongly. Page 12.

Someday, it may happen — as it did with the telephone, initially an instrument of business-to-business communications that only later became a household necessity. But to glimpse the biggest opportunity for using Internet technology soon, shift the focus from the visions to the details inside the offices of corporate America, where workers handle chores such as purchasing, accounting, customer ser-

See CISCO, Page 15

Audrey Shchyr/The New York Times

Sales from Cisco System's Web site have reached nearly $5 million a day.

Dollar-Buyers Ignore Warning From the G-7

More Gains Predicted as Currency Rises

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — The dollar seemed to brush aside warnings Monday from the governments of the world's seven largest economies that its two-year increase had gone far enough.

The dollar reached a three-year high against the Deutsche mark and the yen before giving up much of its gains in late New York trading after fresh warnings from European and Japanese officials that the currency's appreciation had run its course.

In Washington, Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka of Japan warned the markets Monday that the Group of Seven was losing patience with the dollar's continued rise. He also hinted again that Tokyo might intervene to prop up the yen. The Bundesbank's president, Hans Tietmeyer, said, "We don't want an overheating of the dollar."

The dollar was at 1.7328 DM at 4 P.M. in New York, compared with 1.7274 DM on Friday. It was also at 126.895 yen, up from 126.300 yen, at 1.4735 Swiss francs, up from 1.4685 francs, and at 5.8400 French francs, up from 5.8295 francs. But the pound edged up to $1.6247 from $1.6245.

Despite the warnings, which echoed statements made over the weekend, currency traders said they thought the dollar had further to go and that the G-7, which comprises the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada, would be powerless to stop it.

Many analysts agree with the G-7 officials that the economic fundamentals now favor a stalling in the dollar's rise. Where they differ is on the questions of timing and levels. Many forecasters continue to expect a rise in the dollar to around 130 yen and 1.80 DM over the next three months.

Economists expect fresh impetus for that rise to emerge this week from a series of economic statistics that are expected to show strength in the already robust U.S. economy, a picture that will contrast markedly with the weaker economies of Japan and Germany.

Those figures are also expected to increase pressure on the Federal Reserve Board to raise interest rates at its next meeting May 20 to try to cool the economy and to avoid an surge in inflation. Such a rate increase would increase the attractiveness of holding dollars instead of yen or marks, as Japanese and German rates are expected to remain flat for the rest of the year.

Nonetheless, with the dollar having gained 50 percent against the yen and nearly 25 percent against the mark in the past two years, even admirers of its long run admit that it is looking a bit winded.

"The dollar is losing, not gaining, momentum," said Paul Meggyesi, senior currency economist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. "I think from here it will just grind out its gains rather than spurting ahead." By most accounts, it is likely to fare best against the German currency. In

See DOLLAR, Page 12

Boeing's Earnings Triple but Still Fail to Meet Wall Street's Lofty Expectations

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEATTLE — Boeing Co. said Monday that its first-quarter profit tripled on increased commercial airplane deliveries and profits from its new defense and space units, but the company's stock plunged because the earnings did not meet analysts' expectations.

Boeing reported $377 million in profit, up from $119 million a year earlier. Revenue climbed 70 percent, to $7.3 billion from $4.3 billion. The results included a $64 million one-time gain from stock held in a trust account for employees.

Boeing's shares fell $6.625 in New York trading, to close at $95.375.

During the quarter ended March 31, Boeing delivered 68 commercial jets, compared with just 40 for the same period last year. Boeing said approximately 90 aircraft deliveries were planned for the second quarter and 340 for the year. Total sales for the year are forecast to be about $33 billion, up from $22.7 billion last year.

The latest quarter was the first full period to include earnings from the defense and space units Boeing bought from Rockwell International Corp. last year. But the gain was partly offset by higher research and development expenses, bigger interest payments and a higher income tax rate, Boeing said.

Separately in Brussels, the European Union's top trade official told U.S. officials that America gave too much indirect support to U.S. aircraft makers.

"We have questions about the level of indirect subsidies," said Peter Guilford, a spokesman for the European trade commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan.

The EU complaint about subsidies could add a new wrinkle to an investigation by Europe's competition office of Boeing's proposed acquisition of McDonnell Douglas Corp.

Sir Leon wrote U.S. authorities about six weeks ago expressing dissatisfaction with the level at which a 1992 accord on aircraft subsidies has been respected, Mr. Guilford said.

Meanwhile, Boeing, which is based in Seattle, is teaming up with the likes of Motorola Inc., General Motors Corp., American International Group Inc., International Business Machines Corp. and General Electric Co. to protect their growing business in China. The companies have started a lobbying effort to persuade Congress to renew China's most-favored-nation trading status.

"This time around, we're trying to pull a lot more people into the debate who may not have been there before," said Tim Neale, a spokesman for Boeing. "This is a grassroots effort to show other businesses they have a stake in this debate. It isn't just Boeing that exports to China; we have suppliers in every state who one way or another are affected." *(AP, Bloomberg, AFP)*

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

Euro Vote Lets France Set the Pace

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — More than any other country, France has set the pace of postwar European integration — sometimes dramatically applying the brakes, at other times the throttle.

Now, with President Jacques Chirac's sudden call for parliamentary elections next month, the future of European integration is once again in French hands.

Whatever other issues may emerge in the campaign, the vote will be widely seen in France and beyond as a referendum on the European Union's plan to introduce a single currency, the euro, in January 1999.

If Mr. Chirac's center-right coalition retains power, he will take that victory as a mandate to do whatever may be necessary to bring France into the euro, improving the chances that the currency will start on time. If, on the other hand, the opposition Socialists were to win, the European Union's move to economic and monetary union would be in jeopardy.

It seems inconceivable that Germany could accept the Socialists' current conditions for joining the single currency, which include demands for greater political control over European monetary policy, a relatively weak euro, Italian and Spanish membership from the start and relaxation of the strict budgetary discipline that Germany has made a prerequisite of entry.

The French vote will be taken as a barometer of opinion in other countries.

The French vote will also inevitably be taken as a barometer of opinion in other countries. With the single currency now at the heart of the political agenda in virtually every member state, economic and monetary union has become the biggest EU-wide political issue since integration started in the 1950s.

The euro is a wild card in the British elections this Thursday; the leaders of Italy and Spain have staked their futures on joining the single currency as founder members, and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany has said the need to pilot Germany carefully into the euro is one of his main reasons for running for re-election next year.

The political contexts are different. Italians and Spaniards generally want their leaders to take them into the single currency. In Germany and France, the onus is rather on the leaders to persuade their populaces to follow. British leaders share their voters' doubts.

But throughout the Union, Euromoney is bringing Europolitics in its wake. As the pooling of national sovereignty reaches into such deeply sensitive areas as control of the currency, debate is spilling freely across national frontiers.

The process first became clearly visible in 1992, when Danish voters initially rejected the Maastricht Treaty, on which economic and monetary union is based, in a shock referendum result that immediately became a symbol of much wider opposition to European integration.

Denmark's verdict was subsequently reversed. But the initial "No" encouraged French opponents of the treaty, who very nearly succeeded in derailing it in a referendum three months later. Now, if the French elections reveal mounting doubts about the euro and the Socialists do well, Germany's Socialists may be encouraged to campaign against Mr. Kohl in a similar vein next year, breaching the German establishment's consensus in favor of economic and monetary union on the current terms.

The Europeanization of the debate can only be welcomed. Continental Europe's political and economic elite has done a poor job of transmitting its enthusiasm for the euro to the public at large — despite pious promises to do better.

The euro is the next essential building block in the construction of a united Europe. But the EU's leaders have to make a stronger case for it — a union without broadly based democratic support will be built on sand. Mr. Chirac will have a lot to answer for if his electoral gamble fails to solidify the foundations in the next few weeks.

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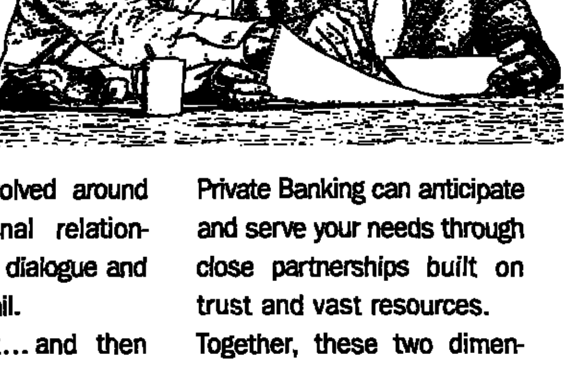

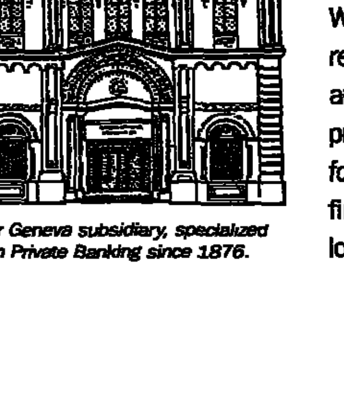

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

April 28

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.946	3.157	1.1255	0.3337	0.1134*	—	5.4925*	1.3227	1.536*	1.391	1.335*
Brussels	35.40	57.5175	20.634	6.11	2.0738*	18.345	—	24.2355	0.282	25.41	24.49*
Frankfurt	1.7325	2.8135	—	0.2967	0.1006*	0.8889	4.8467*	1.1752	1.3664*	1.2387	1.1467*
London (a)	1.6234	—	2.814	9.4581	2,703.73	3.1557	57.8742	2.3463	205.489	2.2786	236.432
Madrid	145.926	236.911	84.2777	25.004	8.483*	74.915	4.0844	99.047	115.184*	104.352	—
Milan	1,718.20	2,791.00	992.30	294.51	—	882.60	48.12	1,166.30	13.564	1,228.55	11.782
New York (b)	—	1.6247a	1.7328	5.84	1,720.00	1.9480	35.76	1.4735	126.895	1.4003	145.95
Paris	5.836	9.4745	3.3705	—	0.3397*	2.9961	0.1634	3.9632	4.6085*	4.1734	3.9995*
Tokyo	126.90	206.15	73.34	21.48	8.737	64.92	3.5487	85.95	—	90.84	0.8666
Toronto	1.4004	2.2756	0.803	0.2399	0.0815*	0.7179	0.3917*	0.9487	1.1035*	—	0.959*
Zurich	1.4095	2.2872	0.8507	0.2523	0.0857*	0.7565	4.3221*	—	1.1678*	1.051	1.0004*
1 ECU	1.1322	0.6974	1.9833	6.6073	1,945.24	2.2053	40.4404	1.668	143.434	1.5852	165.285
1 SDR	1.3623	0.8389	2.3626	N.Q.	2,340.05	2.6564	48.7459	2.0004	173.054	1.9127	198.591

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers: New York rates at 4 P.M. and Toronto rates at 3 P.M.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9986	Greek drac.	274.48	Mex. peso	7.886	S. Afr. rand	4.4375
Australian $	1.2814	Hong Kong $	7.747	N. Zealand $	1.4382	S. Kor. won	892.40
Austrian sch.	12.177	Hung. forint	180.93	Norw. krone	7.0902	Swed. krona	7.7927
Brazil real	1.0626	Indian rupee	35.765	Phil. peso	26.36	Taiwan $	27.67
Chinese yuan	8.3243	Indo. rupiah	2436.80	Polish zloty	3.15	Thai baht	26.07
Czech koruna	30.56	Irish £	0.6494	Port. escudo	173.34	Turkish lira	133610.
Danish krone	6.5845	Israeli shek.	3.4072	Russ ruble	5737.00	UAE dirham	3.6705
Egypt. pound	3.3952	Kuwl dinar	0.3045	Saudi riyal	3.7504	Venez. boliv.	480.00
Fin. markka	5.1977	Malay. ring.	2.51	Sing. $	1.4445		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.6227	1.6217	1.6208	Japanese yen	126.05	125.51	124.92
Canadian dollar	1.3955	1.3926	1.3901	Swiss franc	1.4672	1.4623	1.4572
Deutsche mark	1.7268	1.7189	1.7151				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo).

Libid-Libor Rates

April 28

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 11/16 - 5 13/16	3 - 3 1/8	1 7/16 - 1 9/16	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	3 3/16 - 3 5/16	7/16 - 9/16	4 3/16 - 4 1/4
3-month	5 27/32 - 5 31/32	3 3/16 - 3 1/4	1 15/32 - 1 19/32	6 3/8 - 6 1/2	3 3/8 - 3 1/2	1/2 - 5/8	4 1/8 - 4 3/16
6-month	5 15/16 - 6 1/16	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	1 1/4 - 1 3/8	6 1/2 - 6 5/8	3 1/2 - 3 5/8	1/2 - 5/8	4 3/16 - 4 1/4
1-year	6 5/16 - 6 7/16	3 5/16 - 3 7/16	1 9/16 - 1 11/16	6 7/8 - 7 1/8	3 9/16 - 3 11/16	11/16 - 13/16	4 1/4 - 4 5/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/2	8 1/2
Federal funds	5 5/16	5 5/16
90-day CDs dealers	5.76	5.75
180-day CP dealers	5.73	5.69
3 month Treasury bill	5.19	5.17
1-year Treasury bill	5.72	5.73
2-year Treasury bill	6.49	6.52
5-year Treasury note	6.81	6.83
7-year Treasury note	6.85	6.87
10-year Treasury note	6.91	6.93
30-year Treasury bond	7.12	7.13
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.95	4.95
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.44	0.44
1-month interbank	0.52	0.52
3-month interbank	0.53	0.63
6-month interbank	0.59	0.59
10-year Govt bond	2.35	2.32
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.08	3.08
1-month interbank	3.23	3.23
3-month interbank	3.25	3.25
6-month interbank	3.38	3.28
10-year Bond	5.91	5.90

Britain		
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	6.00	6.00
1-month interbank	6 3/16	6 3/16
3-month interbank	6 7/16	6 7/16
6-month interbank	6 11/16	6 11/16
10-year Gilt	7.65	7.67
France		
Intervention rate	3.10	3.10
Call money	3 3/16	3 3/16
1-month interbank	3 1/4	3 5/16
3-month interbank	3 7/16	3 7/16
6-month interbank	3 1/2	3 9/16
10-year OAT	5.84	5.82

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

Gold

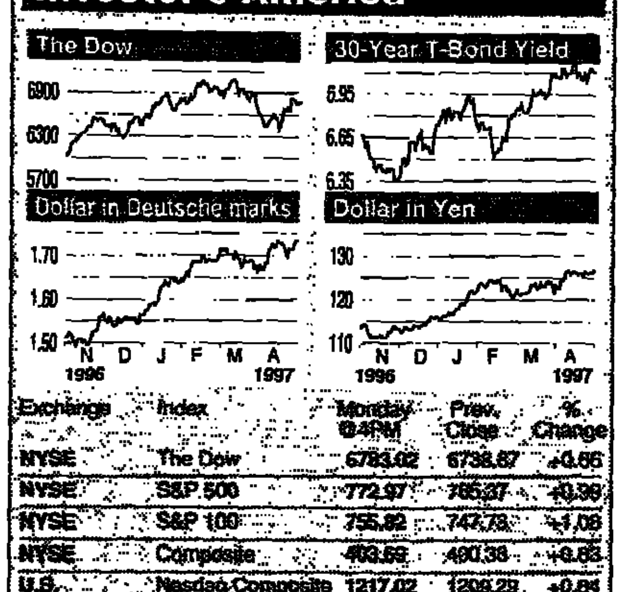
	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	341.80	340.00	—2.00
London	341.25	340.20	—2.05
New York	343.60	341.40	—2.50

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (June.)

Source: Reuters.

THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



Exchange	Index	Monday @4PM	Prev. Close	% Change
NYSE	The Dow	6783.02	6738.87	+0.66
NYSE	S&P 500	772.97	765.37	+0.99
NYSE	S&P 100	755.82	747.73	+1.08
NYSE	Composite	403.69	400.38	+0.83
U.S.	Nasdaq Composite	1217.02	1209.29	+0.64
AMEX	Market Value	541.20	542.83	-0.30
Toronto	TSE Index	5830.59	5836.30	-0.10
São Paulo	Bovespa	9761.64	9731.75	+0.31
Mexico City	Bolsa	3741.69	3772.84	-0.83
Buenos Aires	Merval	716.04	714.48	+0.22
Santiago	IPSA General	5309.44	5321.67	-0.23
Caracas	Capital General	6271.12	6319.28	-0.76

Source: Bloomberg, Reuters International Herald Tribune

Marvel Unveils a Rescue Plan: Merge With Toymaker

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Marvel Entertainment Group Inc., the force behind the Spider-Man and X-Men characters, said Monday it planned to merge with a company that made toys based on Marvel characters to try to emerge from bankruptcy-law protection.

The plan, which drew opposition from the company's bondholders, represents yet another twist in the saga of Marvel, which has pitted the 1980s-style financiers Carl Icahn and Ronald Perelman against each other.

In February, Mr. Icahn, Marvel's leading bondholder, won a major ruling in bankruptcy court that gave bondholders the right to seize 79 percent of the comic-book company's stock. Mr. Perelman, who currently owns those shares, withdrew his own plan of reorganization, which included a merger with the toy company, Toy Biz Inc.

The new plan would give Marvel's bank lenders 28 percent of the combined Marvel and Toy Biz plus the proceeds of a new $250 million term loan, a five-year, $170 million note from the combined company and full ownership of Marvel's Fleer/SkyBox trading-card unit and its Panini children's sticker subsidiary. Those units then would be sold. Holders of Marvel shares, who would largely be the current bondholders after they foreclose on Marvel's shares, would get warrants to buy 12.5 percent of Marvel/Toy Biz.

Bondholders expressed displeasure with the deal.

"Under this proposed plan, the banks and Toy Biz would gain a windfall at the expense of the shareholders," said Paul Caminiti, a spokesman for the bondholders' committee.

"We will fight this plan vigorously with every legal remedy available under the bankruptcy laws."

Scott Sassa, chairman and chief executive officer of Marvel, said the new plan treated all parties "as fairly as possible" and provided "an opportunity for the holding-company bondholders and Marvel's equity holders to receive a recovery."

Marvel said its chief lender, Chase Manhattan Bank, supported the proposal, which will have to be approved by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Helen Balick in Wilmington, Delaware, among other procedural steps.

Marvel, the largest comic-book seller and the leading producer of trading cards in the United States, got into financial trouble when collectors who bought its cards and comic books with abandon in the late 1980s and early 1990s lost their appetite for such purchases.

In its bankruptcy court filing in December, Marvel, based in New York, listed assets of $229.6 million and liabilities of $693.2 million.

Marvel's new reorganization plan said the company would consider other bids for the combined Marvel and Toy Biz, or for Marvel alone, in certain circumstances, terms. Marvel owns 26.7 percent of Toy Biz. In that case, Toy Biz shareholders other than Marvel would be paid a $7 million break-up fee.

Satellite-TV Deal Hits a Snag

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — EchoStar Communications Corp. said Monday that News Corp. may drop its plan to invest $1 billion in the satellite-television company if EchoStar does not agree to use News Corp.'s subscriber-security system.

The companies said they were delaying their applications for regulatory approval because they have not been able to resolve the dispute. "There can be no assurance that News Corp. will proceed with an investment in EchoStar," EchoStar said.

News Corp. and MCI Communications Corp. agreed in February to spend $1 billion for 50 percent of EchoStar and combine their satellites into a new satellite-television company called Sky. The companies planned to invest as much as $2.5 billion in 18 months on a network to reach 75 percent of U.S. viewers with small satellite dishes. Cable companies that are battling the plan refer to it as "Death Star."

EchoStar said News Corp. asked it late Friday to abandon its Nagra SA conditional access system. The system involves a card inserted into subscribers' set-top box, which allows the broadcaster to ensure that the signals are received only by paying customers.

EchoStar said it requested additional information about News Corp.'s conditional access system to determine whether it would meet terms set in the letter of agreement between the companies.

The chairman of News Corp., Rupert Murdoch, may be seeking to gain more control over the network, analysts said. Mr. Murdoch will be chairman and the EchoStar chairman, Charles Ergen, will be chief executive. *(AP, Bloomberg)*

Profit Optimism Buoys A Cautious Wall Street

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stock prices rose Monday as relief over better-than-expected corporate profits offset a decline in Boeing's shares.

But the market's tone remained hesitant amid anxieties about whether the inflation and interest-rate outlook would worsen with this week's economic reports.

"If there are any economic triggers that will influence the Federal Reserve Board's policy direction at its May 20 meeting, they will most likely be unveiled this week," said Robert Froehlich, chief investment strategist for Kemper Funds.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 44.15 points higher at 6,783.02. The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose 7.60 to 772.97, and the Nasdaq composite index gained 7.74 to 1217.03.

"There's a lot of financial engineering going on, but you still have to be impressed with what American management is doing," said Wayne Nordberg, a partner with Lord Abbett & Co. "Our costs are way below that of Europe and Japan, and our management systems are more flexible."

About 400 of the companies in the S&P 500 have released results so far this quarter, and 75 percent have said profits had matched or exceeded the latest expectations.

That offset some concern that economic reports this week would show growth strong enough to prompt the Federal Reserve Board to raise interest rates, which can hurt corporate profits.

Bonds were little changed as investors braced for reports on labor costs, economic output and employment this week that may set the stage for another interest-rate increase.

"The bet seems to be that we're getting bad news" for bond inves-

U.S. STOCKS

tors that could give the Fed reason to raise rates again to try to cool the economy when central bankers meet next month, said John Kohn at TradeStreet Investment Advisors.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 12/32 to 94 2/32, taking the yield down to 7.11 percent from 7.14 percent.

American Express, one of the biggest gainers in the Dow, rose 3⅛ to 64½ on a report that its credit-card business was growing faster than its competitors'. Last week, American Express reported first-quarter earnings that exceeded analysts' expectations.

Other financial shares climbed, with Travelers Group up 1⅝ to 50½ and J.P. Morgan up 2¾ at 98⅝. The shares had been on a downtrend the past two months as bond yields rose. Analysts said their shares were inexpensive compared with their expected earnings.

International Business Machines fell ¼ to 150½, but Compaq Computer gained ¾ to 79⅜ after a market-research firm said worldwide personal-computer growth had accelerated.

McDermott International fell ¼ to 21; the energy-services company will report a loss of $90 million for its latest quarter. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Very briefly:

- **3DO Co.** plans to sell its hardware business to **Samsung Electronics Co.** for $20 million.
- **AirTouch Communications Inc.**'s first-quarter profit rose 23 percent, to $64 million, or 13 cents a share, from $52 million, or 10 cents a share, a year earlier.
- **Chase Manhattan Bank** is offering its own free on-line banking service, as the largest U.S. bank competes for a growing piece of the so-called tellerless banking market.
- **Ford Motor Co.** is cutting 125 jobs at its plant in Avon Lake, Ohio, because of slow sales of its Mercury Villager minivan.
- **Newmont Mining Corp.** and its operating unit, **Newmont Gold Co.**, said first-quarter earnings rose 91 percent as a 37 percent increase in production offset declining gold prices. Net income rose to $20.4 million from $10.7 million a year earlier as revenue rose 62 percent, to $266.1 million.
- **Tyson Foods Inc.**, the world's largest poultry processor, said its second-quarter earnings more than tripled, to $48.2 million, or 22 cents a share, from $14.5 million, or 7 cents a share, a year earlier. *Bloomberg, AP*

PC Industry's Growth: Pretty Cheery

By John Markoff
New York Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — Despite Wall Street anxieties about the market for home computers, the personal-computer industry continues to show strong growth, according to two reports issued Monday.

Figures from Dataquest Inc. and International Data Corp. indicate that the PC industry grew by about 16 percent worldwide during the first quarter, compared with a year ago.

While Compaq Computer Corp. remains the world leader in PC sales, the latest figures show that struggling Apple Computer Inc. has fallen from the global top five PC makers for the first time. International Data reported that the top five computer makers for the quarter on a worldwide basis were Compaq, IBM Corp., Dell Computer Corp. Packard Bell-NEC and Toshiba Corp.

The two market-research concerns differed, however, in their assessment of the PC market in the United States. International Data said that it grew by 20 percent in the quarter, faster than any region in the world. But Dataquest put the U.S. growth rate at 15.2 percent, slower than the global market.

Weekend Box Office

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Volcano" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend, with a gross of $14.7 million. Following are the Top 10 moneymakers, based on Friday's ticket sales and estimated sales for Saturday and Sunday.

1. Volcano	(Twentieth Century-Fox)	$14.7 million
2. Romy & Michele's High School Reunion	(Touchstone Pictures)	$7.6 million
3. Anaconda	(Columbia Pictures)	$7.3 million
4. Liar Liar	(Universal)	$6.8 million
5. The Saint	(Paramount)	$5 million
6. Murder at 1600	(Warner Bros.)	$4.7 million
7. Grosse Pointe Blank	(Hollywood Pictures)	$3 million
8. Scream	(Dimension Films)	$1.4 million
9. The Devil's Own	(Columbia Pictures)	$1.2 million
10. Chasing Amy	(Miramax)	$1.1 million

DOLLAR: *Buyers Shrug Off Warning by Group of Seven*

Continued from Page 11

part that reflects a view that Germany, as well as France and Italy, would welcome the economic stimulus that a weakening of their currencies would bring their exporters.

Japan may have equal if not greater need for an economic boost, compared with the Europeans, but with America's trade deficit with Japan soaring because of the yen's decline, a further erosion of its value would be politically unwelcome.

Still, Paul Chertkow, head of foreign exchange for Union Bank of Switzerland, said Washington and Tokyo may yet come to terms over the dollar's rise. "With the U.S. economy still robust and with U.S. exports running at record levels, I think that there is less concern in Washington with bilateral trade flows with any one nation," he said.

AMEX

Monday's 4 P.M. Close
The top 300 most active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Indexes

Dow Jones

	Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	6714.00	6788.64	6701.55	6783.02	+44.15
Trans	2514.59	2544.80	2509.97	2531.85	+19.11
Util	209.40	213.81	209.47	213.46	+3.99
Comp	2114.20	2138.68	2113.44	2135.50	+17.34

Standard & Poors

	High	Low	Previous Close	Today 4PM
Industrials	—	—	902.74	909.44
Transp.	—	—	569.11	574.22
Utilities	—	—	180.93	183.86
Finance	—	—	84.86	86.79
SP 500	—	—	765.37	772.97
SP 100	—	—	748.12	755.82

NYSE

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	404.06	399.52	402.69	+2.71
Industrials	510.52	505.15	510.00	+2.89
Transp.	374.72	370.10	373.90	+3.46
Utility	254.97	251.61	254.53	+2.50
Finance	367.25	360.12	366.89	+6.07

Nasdaq

	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Composite	1220.08	1204.25	1217.03	+7.74
Industrials	975.43	967.94	973.24	+2.18
Banks	1359.19	1352.62	1357.46	+2.58
Insurance	1419.85	1406.93	1415.83	-1.66
Finance	1654.63	1642.33	1653.42	+7.49
Transp.	853.28	843.57	845.06	-8.29

AMEX

High	Low	Last	Chg.
543.97	541.02	541.20	-1.63

Dow Jones Bond

	Previous Close	Today Noon
20 Bonds	101.38	101.38
10 Utilities	98.16	98.19
10 Industrials	104.60	104.56

Most Actives

NYSE

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Boeing	77788	96⅞	94⅜	95⅛	-6⅛
EDS	49737	32⅝	32½	32½	—
PhilMor s	63081	39⅝	38⅞	39¼	+⅛
PharUpj	47772	29⅜	27½	28⅜	-⅜
PepsiCo s	45504	32⅛	31	31	-1
ColHCA s	44953	33¾	32⅞	33⅞	-⅛
Tidwtr	41454	40⅝	35⅝	40	-4⅛
WstgEl	39145	17	16½	16¾	-⅛
AT&T s	38537	32¼	31⅛	32¼	+1⅛
ChaseM	32960	88⅛	85⅝	87½	+2½
NikeB s	31262	55¾	52¾	53⅝	-2⅝
K mart	29378	13⅝	13⅜	13½	+⅛
Citicorp	28881	108	103⅞	107⅛	+3⅞
Exxon s	27383	54⅛	52⅞	53⅞	+1⅛
EdisonInt	27149	21	20⅛	20⅝	+⅛

Nasdaq

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Cisco	130809	47⅛	45⅝	46½	+⅛
GldLew	102628	28⅞	20	20	+6⁹⁄₁₆
Intel	99786	147	143⅜	146½	+2½
Microsft s	83886	115⁹⁄₁₆	111⅜	114⅝	+1⅜
EricTel	74473	31⅛	29⅜	30⅝	+1⅛
SunMic s	49594	28⅝	26⅛	28	+⅛
ApldMat	48968	51½	47½	50⅝	+2⅛
DellCpt s	40668	80⅛	77⅝	78⅝	+1⅛
Clarify	40414	9⅞	7⅛	9⅝	+1⅝
Ascend	37326	40⅝	38½	39⅝	+⅛
RossSy	34687	2⅛	2	2	—
Oracle	33890	38⅛	36⅜	38	+⅛
Novell	33239	7⅝	7⅛	7½	-⅛
Staples	32833	18⅛	17⅝	18⅛	-⅛
WorldCm s	31820	22⅛	21⅛	22⅛	+⅛

AMEX

	Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
XCL Ltd	30074	¼	⅜	⅜	—
SPDR	16347	77⅝	76⅜	77⅛	+⅞
ViacB	10321	26⅛	25⅝	25⅝	-⅛
RoyalO g	8375	2⅞	2⅜	2⅞	-⅛
Metromda	7884	9⅛	8⅞	8⅞	-⅛
EchoBay	7554	5⅝	5½	5½	-⅛
Pharmkt	6808	2⅞	1⅞	2⅛	-⅛
Hasbro s	4712	24⅛	23⅝	24	-⅛
Nabors	4428	19⅛	18⅝	18⅝	-⅛
PegGld	4070	7	6⅞	6⅞	-⅛

Trading Activity

NYSE

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	1368	797
Declined	1118	1683
Unchanged	835	842
Total issues	3321	3322
New Highs	37	27
New Lows	72	67

Nasdaq

	Noon	Prev.
Advanced	1458	1697
Declined	1685	2181
Unchanged	2261	1875
Total issues	5404	5753
New Highs	13	38
New Lows	163	174

AMEX

	Close	Prev.
Advanced	225	220
Declined	294	274
Unchanged	191	197
Total issues	710	691
New Highs	7	7
New Lows	18	16

Market Sales

	Today 4PM	Prev. cons.
NYSE	407.23	496.70
Amex	18.59	23.33
Nasdaq	426.12	497.29

In millions.

Dividends

Company	Per	Amt	Rec	Pay
IRREGULAR				
AL Pwr adjpfA 93	-	.3412	6-3	7-1
Capital Sthwst	-	.20	5-15	5-30
Property Cap Tr	-	.06	5-12	5-23
Scudder Grw Inco	-	.14	4-25	4-30
INCREASED				
Crestar Fincl	Q	.29	5-5	5-21
Fima Ind A	Q	.80	6-3	6-17
United Fed Svgs	Q	.06	5-15	6-2
SPECIAL				
IPC Holdings	-	1.00	6-10	6-26
NH Insur Grp n	-	1.08	5-5	5-9
Property Cap Tr	-	.20	5-12	5-23
YEAREND				
Coca Cola Femsa	-	.2668	5-1	5-9
INITIAL				
Atlantic Richfld n	-	.7125	5-16	6-13
Dime Bancorp	-	.04	5-16	6-16
REGULAR				
Apartment Inv	Q	.4625	5-8	5-15
CR Fincl	Q	.30	3-31	4-20
ChemTrol Chem	Q	.09	5-5	5-15
Cominco Ltd g	S	.15	6-13	6-30
Ferro Corp	Q	.155	5-15	6-10
Fincl Bancorp	Q	.10	5-6	5-20
Fst Fin Hold	Q	.18	5-9	5-23
Fst Patriot	Q	.03	5-9	5-30
Hancock Pat Set	M	.1031	5-5	5-30
Harveys Casino	Q	.05	5-15	6-1
Highlander Inco	M	.094	5-5	5-28
IPC Holding	Q	.3175	6-10	6-26
Investors Fin	Q	.02	4-30	5-15
Irvine Apartment	Q	.365	5-5	5-30
LSI Indust	Q	.05	5-13	5-20
LTV Corp	Q	.03	5-15	6-6
Lawter Intl	Q	.10	5-16	6-3
Lubrizol Corp	Q	.25	5-9	6-10
MCN Energy	Q	.2425	5-9	5-23
McDonald Doug	Q	.12	6-6	7-7
Merchants Group	Q	.05	5-16	6-2
Minuteman Intl	Q	.11	4-30	5-15
NC Natur Gas	Q	.35	5-30	6-13
Oshkosh Truck B.	Q	.125	5-6	5-13
Peekskill Fin	Q	.09	5-9	5-30
Pinnacle West	Q	.275	5-2	6-1
SIS Bancorp	Q	.12	5-5	5-23
Svgs Bk Finger LA	Q	.10	5-7	5-21
Sensormatic El	Q	.055	5-5	5-19
Standard Fin	Q	.10	4-30	5-15
Universal Mfg	Q	.25	5-5	5-20
Yonkers Fin	Q	.05	4-28	5-15

a-annual; b-approximate amount per share/ADR; g-payable in Canadian funds; m-monthly; q-quarterly; s-semi-annual

Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless otherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbursements based on the latest declaration. a - dividend also extra (s). b - annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c - liquidating dividend. cc - PE exceeds 99.cld - called. d - new yearly low. dd - loss in the last 12 months. e - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months. f - annual rate, increased on last declaration. g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax. i - dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend. j - dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting. k - dividend declared or paid this year, an accumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - annual rate, reduced on last declaration. n - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading. nd - next day delivery. p - initial dividend, annual rate unknown. P/E - price-earnings ratio. q - closed-end mutual fund. r - dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus stock dividend. s - stock split. Dividend begins with date of split. sls - sales. t - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. u - new yearly high. v - trading halted. vi - in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. wd - when distributed. wi - when issued/ ww - with warrants. x - ex-dividend or ex-rights. xdis - ex-distribution. xw - without warrants. y- ex-dividend and sales in full. yld - yield. z - sales in full.

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

April 28, 1997

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	OpInt
Grains					
CORN (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	294	290½	290¾	—3¼	52,098
Jul 97	293¾	290	290½	—4	126,844
Sep 97	282	277½	277¾	—4¾	24,371
Dec 97	277	273½	273¾	—4¾	103,843
Mar 98	281½	278¼	278½	—4½	9,948
May 98	285	282¾	282¾	—5¼	782
Jul 98	288½	285	285	—5	2,393
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 84,437					
Fri's open int 324,245 off 4849					
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 tons- dollars per ton					
May 97	284.50	280.50	282.80	+1.20	25,975
Jul 97	281.00	277.40	278.50		43,670
Aug 97	271.00	268.00	268.80	—0.20	12,877
Sep 97	255.50	244.50	252.60	—1.40	7,462
Oct 97	228.00	225.00	226.50	—1.80	8,366
Dec 97	219.80	217.30	217.80	—2.00	16,299
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 38,727					
Fri's open int 117,218 up 3364					
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT) 60,000 lbs- cents per lb					
May 97	25.13	24.92	25.02	+0.05	14,218
Jul 97	25.59	25.41	25.50	+0.05	44,399
Aug 97	25.71	25.57	25.62	+0.01	11,346
Sep 97	25.77	25.65	25.70	—0.02	6,424
Oct 97	25.75	25.60	25.65	—0.09	6,483
Dec 97	25.90	25.75	25.82		17,558
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 25,961					
Fri's open int 101,826 up 543					
SOYBEANS (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	877	864	871	+3¼	26,441
Jul 97	876	863¾	869½	+2	89,517
Aug 97	848½	839	845	+2¾	14,661
Sep 97	764	758½	759	—5½	7,342
Nov 97	698	689	691	—7	43,492
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 92,683					
Fri's open int 185,578 up 3100					
WHEAT (CBOT) 5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel					
May 97	422	411	411½	—12	3,144
Jul 97	429½	419	420½	—11¼	56,562
Sep 97	438¼	424½	425½	—13	13,203
Dec 97	444	434	435	—11½	13,865
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 20,057					
Fri's open int 87,824 off 1008					
Livestock					
CATTLE (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Jun 97	64.00	63.60	63.75	—0.07	36,483
Aug 97	64.12	63.82	64.02	—0.05	24,569
Oct 97	68.40	68.22	68.35	—0.05	15,423
Dec 97	70.22	70.07	70.15	—0.05	8,484
Feb 98	71.00	70.90	70.95		5,405
Apr 98	72.70	72.70	72.70	—0.05	973
Est. sales 9,239 Fri's. sales 9,933					
Fri's open int 91,953 up 41					
FEEDER CATTLE (CMER) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	73.35	72.95	73.00	—0.17	5,783
Aug 97	75.95	75.57	75.90	+0.35	7,195
Sep 97	75.75	75.40	75.70	+0.35	1,614
Oct 97	76.10	75.70	76.05	+0.30	2,899
Nov 97	77.80	77.30	77.80	+0.45	1,280
Jan 98	78.25	78.10	78.25	+0.20	310
Est. sales 2,013 Fri's. sales 3,573					
Fri's open int 20,228 up 205					
HOGS-Lean (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Jun 97	84.40	83.60	84.00	—0.42	17,754
Jul 97	84.85	84.10	84.40	—0.25	6,096
Aug 97	83.00	82.47	82.70	—0.17	5,765
Oct 97	75.95	75.42	75.65	—0.20	4,793
Dec 97	72.90	72.50	72.70	—0.20	3,127
Est. sales 7,206 Fri's. sales 8,354					
Fri's open int 39,363 up 177					
PORK BELLIES (CMER) 40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	92.30	90.35	90.35	—1.85	2,598
Jul 97	92.50	90.25	90.25	—1.60	4,107
Aug 97	90.15	88.10	88.75	—0.72	1,043
Est. sales 3,717 Fri's. sales 4,046					
Fri's open int 8,008 up 435					
Food					
COCOA (NCSE) 10 metric tons- $ per ton					
May 97	1460	1442	1442	—22	470
Jul 97	1468	1453	1454	—15	35,733
Sep 97	1492	1478	1478	—12	13,530
Dec 97	1507	1499	1499	—12	17,021
Mar 98	1528	1528	1528	—6	19,813
May 98			1540	—13	8,582
Est. sales 2,514 Fri's. sales 8,816					
Fri's open int 97,218 up 2190					
COFFEE C (NCSE) 37,500 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	220.65	216.50	220.25	+3.90	2,486
Jul 97	197.50	192.00	195.50	+2.25	14,771
Sep 97	179.50	175.50	178.00	+1.30	6,817
Dec 97	162.00	158.65	161.00	+1.90	4,260
Mar 98	151.00	148.50	149.50	+0.75	1,760
Est. sales 5,895 Fri's. sales 8,288					
Fri's open int 30,646 up 452					
SUGAR-WORLD 11 (NCSE) 112,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	11.57	11.43	11.49	—0.06	24,774
Jul 97	11.12	11.01	11.07	—0.07	85,769
Oct 97	10.92	10.85	10.90	—0.06	38,364
Mar 98	10.85	10.80	10.84	—0.04	20,669
Est. sales 41,323 Fri's. sales 17,623					
Fri's open int 177,172 off 1078					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	OpInt
ORANGE JUICE (NCTN) 15,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	76.50	74.70	75.00	—1.15	4,958
Jul 97	78.40	76.50	76.70	—1.05	15,023
Sep 97	80.90	79.25	79.30	—1.00	5,758
Nov 97	83.25	82.10	82.40	—0.50	2,360
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 8,471					
Fri's open int 30,219 up 1225					
Metals					
GOLD (NCMX) 100 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Apr 97	341.00	340.20	340.50	—1.90	273
May 97			340.20	—2.50	2
Jun 97	342.70	340.70	341.30	—2.60	74,718
Aug 97	346.00	343.20	343.80	—2.70	16,420
Oct 97	348.30	345.80	347.20	—3.00	4,280
Dec 97	351.00	349.00	349.50	—2.50	21,515
Feb 98			352.40	—2.40	4,689
Apr 98			355.10	—2.40	3,035
Jun 98	346.20	346.20	346.20	—14.10	6,324
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 12,837					
Fri's open int 162,622 up 349					
HI GRADE COPPER (NCMX) 25,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
Apr 97	115.70	110.80	111.50	—3.20	528
May 97	113.80	110.70	111.40	—1.30	18,504
Jun 97	111.60	109.90	110.30	—1.30	2,338
Jul 97	111.55	109.10	110.00	—0.95	18,162
Aug 97			108.60	—0.45	1,031
Sep 97	107.70	106.10	106.55	—1.05	4,974
Oct 97			106.20	—0.30	848
Nov 97			105.30		953
Dec 97	104.60	103.60	103.65	—0.55	6,174
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 14,183					
Fri's open int 49,800 off 438					
SILVER (NCMX) 5,000 troy oz.- cents per troy oz.					
Apr 97			461.00	—10.90	1
May 97	471.50	457.00	462.00	—10.80	25,328
Jun 97			463.40	—11.00	2
Jul 97	479.00	463.00	466.50	—10.30	45,999
Sep 97	480.50	469.50	472.00	—9.70	4,770
Dec 97	488.00	475.00	479.50	—9.60	6,546
Jan 98			480.70	—11.00	17
Mar 98	490.00	487.00	490.00	—7.80	6,496
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 19,119					
Fri's open int 95,115 off 225					
PLATINUM (NMER) 50 troy oz.- dollars per troy oz.					
Jul 97	375.90	371.50	373.80	—4.70	13,141
Oct 97	375.00	373.50	373.50	—5.40	2,730
Jan 98			375.80	—5.30	1,181
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 22,659					
Fri's open int 17,311 up 350					

LONDON METALS (LME) Dollars per metric ton

	Close		Previous	
Aluminum (High Grade)				
Spot	1602.00	1603.00	1569½	1570½
Forward	1627.00	1628.00	1598.00	1599.00
Copper Cathodes (High Grade)				
Spot	2465.00	2467.00	2561½	2563½
Forward	2365.00	2366.00	2372.00	2373.00
Lead				
Spot	619.00	620.00	619.00	620.00
Forward	629.00	630.00	630.00	631.00
Nickel				
Spot	7335.00	7345.00	7325.00	7335.00
Forward	7455.00	7460.00	7435.00	7445.00
Tin				
Spot	5685.00	5695.00	5690.00	5700.00
Forward	5730.00	5740.00	5740.00	5745.00
Zinc (Special High Grade)				
Spot	1244.00	1245.00	1247½	1249½
Forward	1266.00	1266½	1269.00	1271.00

	High	Low	Close	Chge	OpInt
Financial					
US T. BILLS (CMER) $1 million- pts of 100 pct.					
Jun 97	94.56	94.54	94.54	—0.02	6,943
Sep 97	94.25	94.24	94.24	—0.02	3,468
Dec 97			94.48		847
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 684					
Fri's open int 10,611 up 70					
5 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 64ths of 100 pct					
Jun 97	104-14	104-04	104-10	—01	234,028
Sep 97	103-58	103-55	103-58	—01	1,565
Dec 97			103-51		20
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 39,847					
Fri's open int 210,580 off 27581					
10 YR. TREASURY (CBOT) $100,000 prin- pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Jun 97	105-16	105-10	105-14	—01	326,053
Sep 97	105-01	104-30	105-00		24,840
Dec 97	104-17	104-17	104-17	—04	1,899
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 82,845					
Fri's open int 349,395 off 5519					
US TREASURY BONDS (CBOT) (8 pct-$100,000-pts & 32nds of 100 pct)					
Jun 97	107-08	106-30	107-04		451,831
Sep 97	106-26	106-17	106-23	+01	42,992
Dec 97	106-08	106-04	106-08	—02	6,499
Mar 98			106-01		2,070
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 365,603					
Fri's open int 549,550 up 40918					
LONG GILT (LIFFE) £50,000 - pts & 32nds of 100 pct					
Jun97	109-07	108-22	109-02	+ 0-10	167,122
Sep97	N.T.	N.T.	108-28	+ 0-10	
Est. sales: 36,781. Prev. sales: 38,517					
Prev. open int.: 169,695 up 116					
GERMAN GOVERNMENT BUND (LIFFE) DM250,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	100.54	100.19	100.41	— 0.03	271,610
Sep97	99.47	99.26	99.36	— 0.03	21,895
Est. sales: 84,028. Prev. sales: 143,599					
Prev. open int.: 293,505 up 2,487					

	High	Low	Latest	Chge	OpInt
10-YEAR FRENCH GOV. BONDS (MATIF) FF500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 97	128.62	128.22	128.32	+0.04	158,584
Sep 97	127.06	126.76	126.78	+0.04	8,054
Dec 97	96.60	96.60	96.32	+0.04	0
Est. volume: 84,381. Open int.: 166,636 off 2,959.					
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BOND (LIFFE) ITL 200 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	126.83	126.03	126.70	+ 0.75	108,795
Sep97	127.03	126.70	126.97	+ 0.82	4,977
Est. sales: 53,481. Prev. sales: 38,431					
Prev. open int.: 113,772 up 3,236					
EURODOLLARS (CMER) $1 million-pts of 100 pct.					
Mar 97			91.95		432
May 97	94.08	94.06	94.07	—0.01	41,680
Jun 97	93.98	93.96	93.97	—0.01	479,855
Jul 97	93.87	93.86	93.86	—0.01	6,791
Sep 97	93.68	93.65	93.66	—0.02	418,734
Dec 97	93.39	93.35	93.37	—0.02	306,446
Mar 98	93.24	93.20	93.23	—0.01	238,537
Jun 98	93.12	93.08	93.11	—0.02	207,763
Sep 98	93.02	92.98	93.02	—0.01	161,250
Dec 98	92.92	92.89	92.91	—0.02	130,147
Mar 99	92.93	92.89	92.91	—0.02	108,174
Jun 99	92.89	92.85	92.88	—0.02	81,686
Sep 99	92.86	92.82	92.86	—0.01	62,051
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 3,380					
Fri's open int 46,828 off 2551936					
BRITISH POUND (CMER) 62,500 pounds, $ per pound					
Jun 97	1.6254	1.6194	1.6242		37,808
Sep 97	1.6238	1.6180	1.6200		830
Dec 97			1.6170		101
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 3,314					
Fri's open int 38,739 off 225					
CANADIAN DOLLAR (CMER) 100,000 dollars, $ per Cdn. dlr					
Jun 97	.7193	.7166	.7168		76,090
Sep 97	.7215	.7204	.7212		5,292
Dec 97	.7266	.7248	.7243		1,254
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 4,422					
Fri's open int 83,322 up 453					
GERMAN MARK (CMER) 125,000 marks, $ per mark					
Jun 97	.5852	.5768	.5798		81,353
Sep 97	.5881	.5834	.5836		3,183
Dec 97	.5885	.5985	.5988		320
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 16,845					
Fri's open int 84,885 up 2555					
JAPANESE YEN (CMER) 12.5 million yen, $ per 100 yen					
Jun 97	.8022	.7921	.7940		83,574
Sep 97	.8128	.8046	.8046		1,399
Dec 97	.8220	.8145	.8165		785
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 16,401					
Fri's open int 85,488 up 1949					
SWISS FRANC (CMER) 125,000 francs, $ per franc					
Jun 97	.6885	.6800	.6829		43,186
Sep 97	.6950	.6880	.6897		2,107
Dec 97			.6988		428
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 11,705					
Fri's open int 45,771 off 1586					
3-MONTH STERLING (LIFFE) £500,000 - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	93.36	93.32	93.33	— 0.01	115,169
Sep97	93.08	93.03	93.06	Unch.	94,202
Dec97	92.86	92.79	92.84	+ 0.02	79,361
Mar98	92.70	92.61	92.67	+ 0.02	51,380
Jun98	92.56	92.48	92.55	+ 0.03	40,603
Sep98	92.47	92.41	92.45	+ 0.03	36,729
Dec98	92.37	92.34	92.36	+ 0.03	21,339
Mar99	92.30	92.29	92.29	+ 0.03	14,516
Jun99	92.24	92.24	92.24	+ 0.03	10,675
Est. sales: 34,810. Prev. sales: 53,530					
Prev. open int.: 471,470 up 5,102					
3-MONTH EUROMARK (LIFFE) DM1 million - pts of 100 pct					
May97	N.T.	N.T.	96.76	+ 0.01	4,398
Jun97	96.75	96.74	96.74	— 0.01	225,050
Jul97	N.T.	N.T.	96.73	Unch.	1,572
Sep97	96.69	96.67	96.67	— 0.02	206,385
Dec97	96.53	96.50	96.51	— 0.02	218,104
Mar98	96.38	96.35	96.36	— 0.02	188,489
Jun98	96.19	96.16	96.17	— 0.02	144,032
Sep98	95.98	95.95	95.96	— 0.02	116,348
Dec98	95.71	95.70	95.70	— 0.03	78,066
Mar99	95.47	95.45	95.46	— 0.02	66,145
Jun99	95.21	95.18	95.19	— 0.02	36,779
Sep99	94.95	94.93	94.94	— 0.02	27,186
Dec99	94.49	94.47	94.47	— 0.02	30,495
Mar00	94.45	94.45	94.44	— 0.02	12,204
Est. sales: 78,779. Prev. sales: 144,199					
Prev. open int.: 1,373,576 up 22,181					
3-MONTH PIBOR (MATIF) FF5 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun 97	96.38	96.32	96.33	+0.04	74,316
Sep 97	96.43	96.38	96.39	+0.03	57,399
Dec 97	96.43	96.35	96.36	+0.01	34,766
Mar 98	96.32	96.28	96.29	+0.00	28,776
Jun 98	96.22	96.16	96.16	— 0.02	22,388
Sep 98	96.02	95.99	95.99	— 0.01	20,802
Dec 98	95.79	95.77	95.77	+0.00	13,985
Mar 99	95.54	95.52	95.52	— 0.01	12,660
Jun 99	95.29	95.28	95.28	+0.00	6,551
Sep 99	95.05	95.05	95.05	+0.00	4,491
Dec 99	N.T.	N.T.	94.80	— 0.01	6,158
Mar 00	94.56	94.56	94.56	+0.00	2,051
Est. volume: 56,590. Open int.: 284,343 up 5,110.					
3-MONTH EUROLIRA (LIFFE) ITL 1 million - pts of 100 pct					
Jun97	93.09	93.01	93.07	+ 0.06	125,084
Sep97	93.35	93.26	93.34	+ 0.07	79,093
Dec97	93.48	93.40	93.48	+ 0.09	52,399
Mar98	93.51	93.41	93.50	+ 0.09	32,188
Jun98	93.48	93.38	93.48	+ 0.09	22,859
Sep98	93.41	93.37	93.41	+ 0.09	6,746
Est. sales: 42,434. Prev. sales: 38,344					
Prev. open int.: 321,264 up 1,561					
Industrials					
COTTON 2 (NCTN) 50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.					
May 97	72.09	71.65	71.80	—0.08	803
Jul 97	73.70	73.20	73.45	—0.04	41,689
Oct 97	75.00	74.75	75.00	+0.32	2,474
Dec 97	75.95	75.60	75.90	+0.13	23,849
Mar 98	77.00	76.70	77.00	+0.05	2,993
May 98	77.60	77.52	77.60	+0.08	739
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 7,779					
Fri's open int 73,375 off 551					
HEATING OIL (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
May 97	56.70	55.60	56.40	+0.58	14,400
Jun 97	54.05	53.45	53.80	+0.02	35,725
Jul 97	54.00	53.60	53.90	+0.07	26,265
Aug 97	54.55	54.15	54.45	+0.12	13,629
Sep 97			55.03		7,848
Oct 97	55.95	55.70	55.80	+0.02	7,419
Nov 97	56.65	56.50	56.60	+0.12	7,140
Dec 97	57.30	57.20	57.20	+0.07	11,889
Jan 98	57.75	57.30	57.60	+0.12	6,953
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 27,322					
Fri's open int 144,006 up 83					
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NMER) 1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.					
Jun 97	20.03	19.83	19.92	—0.07	106,228
Jul 97	20.02	19.85	19.95	—0.05	51,680
Aug 97	19.98	19.88	19.93	—0.05	28,377
Sep 97	19.92	19.85	19.90	—0.04	17,458
Oct 97	19.90	19.85	19.86	—0.06	15,161
Nov 97	19.90	19.85	19.85	—0.05	13,123
Dec 97	19.90	19.80	19.82	—0.05	32,642
Jan 98	19.85	19.80	19.85	—0.01	15,598
Feb 98	19.85	19.85	19.85	—0.01	7,924
Mar 98	19.82	19.82	19.82	—0.03	4,212
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 67,452					
Fri's open int 399,082 off 3020					
NATURAL GAS (NMER) 10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu					
Jun 97	2.110	2.075	2.085		35,380
Jul 97	2.145	2.115	2.125		22,342
Aug 97	2.155	2.130	2.140		14,114
Sep 97	2.165	2.140	2.145		12,687
Oct 97	2.170	2.150	2.155		15,198
Nov 97	2.255	2.250	2.250		7,148
Dec 97	2.360	2.350	2.350		10,993
Jan 98	2.400	2.390	2.390		12,675
Feb 98	2.340	2.335	2.335		7,070
Mar 98	2.250	2.240	2.240		4,932
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 30,858					
Fri's open int 183,977 up 2227					
UNLEADED GASOLINE (NMER) 42,000 gal, cents per gal					
May 97	62.50	61.90	62.20	—0.30	18,426
Jun 97	61.55	61.00	61.15	—0.42	42,427
Jul 97	60.50	60.30	60.40	—0.22	14,560
Aug 97	59.55	59.15	59.40	—0.12	6,462
Sep 97	58.20	57.90	58.05	—0.27	3,620
Oct 97	56.45	56.40	56.40	—0.17	2,138
Nov 97	55.70	55.70	55.70	—0.13	1,346
Dec 97	55.40	55.40	55.40	—0.13	3,550
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 26,195					
Fri's open int 98,832 off 182					
GASOIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons					
May 97	166.00	165.00	165.75	+0.25	19,657
Jun 97	166.25	165.25	166.00	Unch.	16,579
Jul 97	167.25	166.75	167.25	Unch.	7,495
Aug 97	168.75	168.00	169.00	+0.50	6,489
Sept 97	170.75	170.25	171.00	+0.50	2,773
Oct 97	172.50	172.25	173.00	+0.50	3,396
Nov 97	173.75	173.25	174.25	+0.25	1,553
Dec 97	174.75	174.75	175.00	+0.25	7,349
Est. sales 8,558. Open int. 69,322 up 915					
BRENT OIL (IPE) U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels					
June 97	18.34	18.18	18.27	Unch.	62,227
July 97	18.41	18.27	18.29	—0.05	50,422
Aug 97	18.50	18.38	18.39	—0.04	15,282
Sep 97	18.58	18.48	18.47	—0.03	8,173
Oct 97	18.62	18.52	18.50	—0.02	5,832
Nov97	N.T.	N.T.	18.52	Unch.	5,171
Dec97	18.65	18.52	18.52	Unch.	8,305
Jan98	N.T.	N.T.	18.51	+0.02	7,443
Est. sales: 20,953. Open int.:167,656 up 1,868					
Stock Indexes					
S&P COMP. INDEX (CMER) 500 x index					
Jun 97	778.10	767.15	776.50	+7.80	178,357
Sep 97	785.40	775.90	783.60	+6.90	5,972
Dec 97	790.10	784.40	790.70	+4.80	3,491
Est. sales N.A. Fri's. sales 65,419					
Fri's open int 188,455 off 3404					
CAC 40 (MATIF) FF200 per index point					
Apr 97	2555.0	2534.0	2535.0	— 3.00	26,696
May 97	2540.5	2518.5	2520.0	— 4.00	12,638
Jun 97	2515.0	2496.5	2496.0	— 4.00	23,937
Sep 97	2526.0	2506.0	2510.5	— 3.00	9,162
Dec 97	N.T.	N.T.	2530.5	— 3.00	452
Mar 98	N.T.	N.T.	2532.5	— 3.00	7,834
Sep 98	N.T.	N.T.	2531.5	— 3.00	1,246
Est. volume: 47,393. Open int.: 81,963 up 4,646.					
FTSE 100 (LIFFE) £25 per index point					
Jun97	4467.0	4379.0	4405.0	+ 11.0	58,781
Sep97	N.T	N.T	4433.0	+ 12.0	3,104
Dec97	N.T	N.T	4475.0	+ 11.0	250
Est. sales: 6,804. Prev. sales: 9,886					
Prev. open int.: 62,135 off 774					

Commodity Indexes

	Close	Previous
Moody's	N.A.	1,573.30
Reuters	1,976.30	1,984.60
D.J. Futures	159.29	160.12
CRB	246.27	248.16

Sources: Matif, Associated Press, London Int'l Financial Futures Exchange, Int'l Petroleum Exchange.

مكتبة الأرشيف

Price-Fixing Study Targets 3 Firms' Units in Germany

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BERLIN — A unit of Siemens AG and the German subsidiaries of Alcatel Alsthom SA and ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd. are being investigated by German authorities on suspicion of having fixed prices in the 1.5 billion Deutsche mark ($877 million) market for electrical cable, the Federal Cartel Office said Monday.

A representative of the cartel office said the investigation centered on Siemens's power-generation unit KWU, Felten & Guilleaume Energietechnik AG, ABB Kabel & Draht GmbH, KWO Kabel GmbH and two Alcatel units. Cartel authorities searched the offices of the companies and several smaller cable makers in September, the representative said, and evidence that was seized then is being examined.

The representative declined to comment on the status of the investigation, which she said was still under way. She said results of the investigation were expected soon.

The cartel office refused to confirm a German newspaper report that Siemens, Germany's largest electronics company, and Alcatel, a French maker of telecommunications equipment, could be fined as much as 90 million DM.

Siemens called the sums mentioned in the report "speculation" but would not comment further. Analysts said the investigation might damage the companies' image but was not likely to have a big effect on earnings.

"At first glance it doesn't seem that interesting," said Pierre Drach, an analyst who covers Siemens at Independent Research in Frankfurt.

(AFP, Bloomberg)

■ Daimler-Benz Denies Cuts

Daimler-Benz AG denied reports that it planned to cut 23,000 jobs, or about 8 percent of its work force, by 1999, Bloomberg News reported from Frankfurt.

"Statements about a supposed cutting of 23,000 jobs at Daimler-Benz are false," a spokesman for the car and aerospace company said. "There are no such plans."

A newspaper report quoted Walter Riester, who is deputy chairman of Germany's largest union, IG Metall, and a member of Daimler's supervisory board, as saying that the company planned to increase sales by 26 percent by 1999 and to reduce staff by 8 percent.

Separately, the aerospace unit of Daimler-Benz said it was interested in buying the defense-electronics business of Siemens AG. A Daimler-Benz Aerospace management board member, Werner Heinzmann, said the company was interested in the Siemens unit as part of a restructuring of Daimler's defense and civil-systems business area.

Domestic Rival To BT Rises 2% On First Day

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Shares in Cable & Wireless Communications PLC rose 2 percent on their first day of trading Monday.

Cable & Wireless Communications was formed by the merger of Cable & Wireless PLC's Mercury Communications Ltd. subsidiary with the British cable-television units of Nynex Corp., Nynex CableComms, Bell Canada's Bell CableMedia and Videotron.

A flotation of 14.7 percent of the new company, which aims to compete with British Telecommunications PLC in telephony, the Internet and television entertainment, started trading in London and New York simultaneously. The stock closed 5 pence higher in London, at 299.5.

Analysts, who have valued the new cable company at about £4.5 billion ($7.3 billion), were eager to see how the market would value it. The merger was announced in October.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Czechs Face Up to Austerity

Poll Results Are Good, but Many Want Heads to Roll

By Peter S. Green
Special to the Herald Tribune

PRAGUE — The government is facing a tough sell as it tries to win support for its two-week-old economic recovery package from business, investors and voters.

Executives and investors say the austerity plan looks good on paper, but they want to see how the government puts it into practice, while a new poll says voters want to see several government officials fired.

Faced with a growing trade deficit, falling productivity and the cumulative effects of years of financial scandals and fraud that have shaken public confidence in the country's economic transition, Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus introduced a bold package of reforms April 16.

He promised to cut the budget by 25.5 billion koruny ($836.6 million), or 5 percent; halt public-sector wage growth; clean up the capital markets; privatize most of the state's remaining holdings, and take other measures to encourage industry to restructure.

To stimulate the economy, bank reserve obligations will be cut, and food and consumer goods, which make up 30 percent of imports, will face import hurdles.

The reforms could halve gross domestic product growth to about 2 percent this year and force Czechs to tighten their belts, Mr. Klaus said.

A poll taken by the Factum agency after the reforms were announced showed that popular support for Mr. Klaus's austerity package was 45.6 percent, with 43.2 percent of voters opposed to it. But about 70 percent of those polled wanted the resignations of Ivan Kocarnik, the finance minister, who is widely blamed for allowing dozens of investment funds to virtually collapse, and Jan Strasky, the health minister.

Mr. Klaus first ruled out any cabinet changes, but under mounting pressure from his coalition partners, he said last week that he would probably shake up his cabinet.

"I don't think its going to have any influence in the short term," said Miroslav Singer, chief economist for Expandia Finance, a Czech investment-fund management group. "We are in the same overall position. We have just changed where we are releasing the money — the budget cuts will be balanced by relaxing the minimum reserve requirements for banks."

Industrialists say the plans could encourage companies to restructure, invest and cut unneeded staff. But many were cautious.

"What was said is, of course, good, but we are waiting for concrete steps before we can really say if it will be effective," said Vaclav Brom, a spokesman for CKD Holding AS, a machinery maker.

The stock market has also been cool to the plan. While the main PX-50 index has remained relatively steady, trading volume has halved since Mr. Klaus's announcement. Foreign investors have pulled out more than $500 million this year, and brokers say no new money is coming into the market.

Alex Angel of the brokerage Wood & Co. said poor company results, along with insider trading, weak regulation, and unpunished fraud have scared off foreign investors and most small Czech investors.

"If you had a couple of high-profile regulatory appointments, and a couple of high-profile imprisonments for massive fraud and a string of impressive corporate earnings, then you'd have investor interest in the Czech Republic," he said. "Until then, its just a lot of hot air."

Yeltsin Clears Sale of Telecom Stake

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin approved a long-delayed sale of 49 percent of the telecommunications company RAO Svyazinvest on Monday, including a 25 percent stake that will be available to foreign investors.

Deputy Prime Minister Alfred Kokh, who is in charge of privatizations, said the 25 percent stake in the company would be priced at $1.1 billion, the news agency Itar-Tass reported.

In 1995, the Italian holding company STET tried to acquire the stake for $630 million plus a pledge of a further $770 million in investment but then pulled out of the deal.

That proposed purchase by Societa Finanziaria Telefonica fell through at the last moment in December 1995, when STET raised concern over Svyazinvest's ability to control its regional telephone companies. But STET said it was interested in bidding again. The new price reflects improvements made to the aging network, which will still require a huge investment. Svyazinvest controls 85 regional telephone companies.

The government has said it would try to attract investors by giving Svyazinvest 38 percent of the state's share in Rostelekom, the main Russian long-distance company.

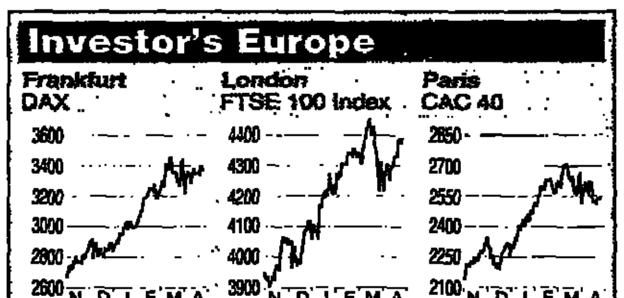
Miles Davenport, head of Russian Telecommunications Development Corp., which is controlled by U S West Communications Group, said Moscow had made it clear that it did not want a foreign company to become a strategic investor and was looking only for "passive" investors. "For us, without an operation role, it is not interesting," he said.

Separately, the government plans to retain a controlling 51 percent stake in RAO Unified Energy System, the national electricity company, instead of breaking it up, the first deputy prime minister, Boris Nemtsov, said.

Mr. Nemtsov suggested he favored preserving the company's monopoly on power distribution, though he also has suggested that consumers would benefit from greater competition among power producers. He said a system of generating companies would be set up to sell power at competing prices to a wholesale market and that this would make it possible to cut electricity charges.

(AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	749.76	752.62	-0.38
Brussels	BEL-20	2,217.16	2,202.22	+0.68
Frankfurt	DAX	3,363.06	3,374.10	-0.33
Copenhagen	Stock Market	543.38	542.98	+0.07
Helsinki	HEX General	2,858.90	2,877.79	-0.66
Oslo	OBX	595.72	596.31	-0.10
London	FTSE 100	4,389.78	4,369.70	+0.46
Madrid	Stock Exchange	501.17	499.21	+0.39
Milan	MIBTEL	12075	12177	-0.84
Paris	CAC 40	2,550.25	2,536.26	+0.55
Stockholm	SX 16	2,708.47	2,758.27	-1.81
Vienna	ATX	1,202.57	1,206.21	-0.30
Zurich	SPI	3,037.56	3,024.24	+0.44

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- A **Paris court** heard additional arguments on procedural questions and on the merits of a lawsuit brought against **Georgia Tech Lorraine**, the French campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology, for using English on the school's Web site in violation of a 1994 law mandating the use of French in sales of goods and services on French territory. The presiding judge said her decision would be announced June 9.
- **Almazy Rossii-Sakha**, Russia's dominant diamond producer, said the target date of this Thursday for government approval of a stalled gem deal with **De Beers Group** of South Africa might not be met.
- **RAO Gazprom** of Russia signed a 28-year agreement that would more than double natural-gas exports to **Turkey**. Gazprom will start increasing exports to Turkey this year, adding 8 billion cubic meters annually by 2001. Turkey imports just 6 billion cubic meters of gas a year now.
- **Lego Group**, a privately owned Danish toymaker, reported a 9 percent profit increase for 1996, helped by higher sales and income from theme parks. Net profit rose to 470 million kroner ($71 million).
- **Credit Immobilier de France** still would like to buy **Credit Foncier de France**, but any new offer would be on new terms, Immobilier's managing director, Jacques Mimin, said.
- **Atlas Copco AB**'s first-quarter pretax profit dropped 8 percent as global demand for the company's industrial machinery remained sluggish. Pretax profit for the quarter fell to 735 million Swedish kronor ($94 million).
- A **Kontrollbank AG** director, Gerhard Praschak, 46, shot and killed himself in his office, Viennese newspapers reported. Mr. Praschak, the bank's political appointee in charge of state-backed export guarantees, left a six-page suicide note saying he feared losing power at the bank, which is state-controlled.

IHT, Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Monday, April 28
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam
AEX index: 749.76 Previous: 752.62

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	132.30	131	131.10	131.50
Aegon	138.30	137.30	137.30	136.80
Ahold	131.20	130.20	130.20	131.20
Akzo Nobel	262	252	252.50	262
Baan Co.	98.20	96	96.70	98.40
Bols Wess cva	38.90	38	38.60	37.90
CSM cva	111.90	110.90	111.10	111
Dordtsche Pet	367.50	364.20	366	364.80
DSM	191.50	188.80	189.80	190.60
Elsevier	31	30.40	30.40	30.70
Fortis Amev	73.60	71.70	71.70	72.60
Getronics	58.50	57.10	57.50	58.30
G-Brac cva	64.50	62.20	62.40	63.70
Hagemeyer	167.90	166.10	166.50	166.50
Heineken	324.50	316.50	316.50	323.10
Hoogovens cva	88.40	87.50	87.50	88
Hunt Douglas	160.50	159	159.10	160
ING Group	75.70	74.90	74.90	75
KLM	56.60	55.70	56.20	55.50
KNP BT	38.30	37.60	38	38.30
KPN	69.20	68.50	68.60	68.40
Nedlloyd Gp	45	44.30	44.60	44.30
Nutricia	293	290.80	293	291.80
Oce Grinten	235.60	232.60	233.50	234
Philips Elec	99.40	98.10	98.90	98.50
Polygram	93	92	92.10	92.40
Randstad Hdg	174.50	172.10	172.10	173.50
Robeco	160.50	159.50	159.50	162.70
Rodamco	60.60	60.20	60.50	60.70
Rolinco	163.30	162.80	162.80	165.20
Rorento	109.50	108.90	108.90	108.70
Royal Dutch	344.60	342	342.80	342.80
Unilever cva	374.50	372.10	372.40	372.30
Vendex Intl	93.10	92	92.90	92.50
VNU	40.60	40	40.10	40.60
Wolters Kl cva	227	223	223	224.90

Bangkok
SET index: 672.48 Previous: 684.88

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	206	200	200	200
Bangkok Bk F	260	256	260	254
Krung Thai Bk	35	33.50	33.75	35
PTT Explor	322	308	308	322
Siam Cement F	756	724	732	760
Siam Com Bk F	163	156	157	162
Telecomasia	40.75	39.25	39.25	41
Thai Airways	40.50	39.50	40	40.50
Thai Farm Bk F	170	165	166	177
Utd Comm	157	147	150	157

Bombay
Sensex 30 index: 3825.51 Previous: 3825.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bajaj Auto	960	942.25	944.75	951.25
Hindust Lever	1100	1035	1090.75	1093.50
Hindust Petlm	415	408.25	409.50	410
Ind Dev Bk	89	87.50	87.75	88.50
ITC	417.75	413.25	413.75	415.50
Mahanagar Tel	300	293	293.75	292.75
Reliance Ind	308	303.75	305	305.25
State Bk India	319.75	313.50	315.25	314.75
Steel Authority	22.50	21.75	22.25	22
Tata Eng Loco	401.50	397.50	398.50	399.25

Brussels
BEL-20 index: 2217.16 Previous: 2202.22

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Almanij	14150	14000	14100	13975
Barco Ind	6090	6030	6050	6070
BBL	8690	8500	8640	8440
CBR	3480	3425	3435	3435
Colruyt	14900	14650	14725	14650
Delhaize Lion	1810	1800	1805	1795
Electrabel	8090	8050	8060	8040
Electrafina	3520	3500	3520	3520
Fortis AG	6320	6250	6250	6250
Gevaert	2655	2640	2650	2630
GBL	5150	5100	5130	5100
Gen Banque	14575	14450	14475	14380
Kredietbank	13600	13325	13575	13325
Petrofina	12625	12400	12575	12500
Powerfin	5020	5000	5010	5000
Royale Belge	9090	8980	9000	9040
Soc Gen Belg	3130	3080	3120	3080
Solvay	20850	20725	20725	20700
Tractebel	15250	15125	15225	15100
UCB	98200	97600	98000	97050

Copenhagen
Stock index: 543.38 Previous: 542.98

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
BG Bank	294.59	291	291	297
Carlsberg B	400	396	400	399.38
Codan Fors	876.75	864	870	870.87
Danisco	391	383	383	390.87
Den Danske Bk	578.57	565	566.43	570
D/S Svendborg B	299000	298000	299000	298900
D/S 1912 B	209000	207000	207000	209000
FLS Ind B	951.90	945	950	956.96
Kob Lufthavne	660	650	660	650.98
Nvo Nordisk B	666	652	662	661.16
Sophus Ber B	817.63	810.93	815	812
Tele Danmk B	337.95	330	332	330
Tryg Baltica	350	343	343	340
Unidanmark A	334	316	326	331

Frankfurt
DAX: 3363.06 Previous: 3374.10

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB B	1300	1300	1300	1310
Adidas	181	177	177	177
Allianz Hdg	326.50	322	322	326
Altana	1355	1332	1334	1345
Bk Berlin	35.48	35.35	35.48	35.40
BASF	66.30	65.45	65.50	66
Bayer Hypo Bk	51.80	51.30	51.65	51.30
Bay.Vereinsbank	67.30	66.50	66.50	67.70
Bayer	68.39	67.87	68.20	68.10
Beiersdorf	90.50	88	90.10	88.20
Bewag	44	43.50	44	44
BMW	1395	1383	1388	1410
CKAG Colonia	153	151	151	152.50
Commerzbank	46.20	45.90	45.95	46.40
Daimler Benz	127.80	126.75	126.75	127.45
Degussa	80.50	79.10	79.10	78.60
Deutsche Bank	89.20	88.45	88.65	89.58
Deut Telekom	37.20	36.60	36.60	37.05
Dresdner Bank	55.20	54.50	55	55
Fresenius	383	376	376	376.50
Fresenius Med	156	154.20	155.50	154
Fried. Krupp	319	317	318	317
Gehe	114.90	111.70	112	114.90
Heidelbg Zmt	140.60	140.10	140.10	141
Henkel pfd	N.T.	N.T.	N.T.	92
HEW	495	495	0.00	0.00
Hochtief	64	63.20	63.80	63.50
Hoechst	67.90	67.35	67.40	66.20
Karstadt	520	517.50	517.50	521
Lahmeyer	69.30	68.80	68.80	68
Linde	1223	1215	1215	1205
Lufthansa	23.99	23.60	23.85	23.55
MAN	495.50	492.50	495	495.50
Mannesmann	668	663	666.50	670
Metallgesellschaft	34.95	34.45	34.85	34.90
Metro	164	162	163.50	165
Munch Rueck R	4060	4040	4050	4085
Preussag	436.25	434.50	434.50	435.50
RWE	70.10	68.80	69.95	69.35
SAP pfd	318.80	307.50	309	305.90
Schering	161.90	160	160.35	161.05
SGL Carbon	240	235	238.50	242.50
Siemens	90.48	89.35	89.90	90.10
Springer (Axel)	1455	1455	1455	1490
Suedzucker	830	830	830	831
Thyssen	378.80	376.50	377.30	379
Veba	91.20	90	90.85	91.25
VEW	500	499	500	497
Viag	760.50	750	760	769
Volkswagen	1087	1068	1070	1085.50

Helsinki
HEX General index: 2858.90 Previous: 2877.79

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Enso A	42.50	42	42.50	42
Huhtamaki I	234	231	232	233
Kemira	50	47.80	48	49.90
Kesko	72	71.80	72	72.20
Merita A	16.50	16.40	16.40	16.60
Metra B	142.50	141	142	142.50
Metso-Serla B	38.50	37.50	37.80	38.70
Neste	125	123	125	124.60
Nokia A	302	296.10	301	306.50
Orion-Yhtymae	196	190	196	195
Outokumpu A	96	93.50	96	94
UPM-Kymmene	118	116.50	117	117.50
Valmet	88	87	88	88.10

Hong Kong
Hang Seng: 12610.17 Previous: 12645.76

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	7.60	7.45	7.50	7.55
Bk East Asia	26.40	26.10	26.25	26.35
Cathay Pacific	12.10	11.80	12	11.75
Cheung Kong	67.50	66.75	67	67.75
CK Infrastruct	22.10	21.60	22.10	21.75
China Light	34.90	34.60	34.60	35
Citic Pacific	43.40	41.30	42	41.50
Dao Heng Bk	36.30	35.80	36	36.10
First Pacific	9.40	9.15	9.15	9.25
Hang Lung Dev	14.25	14.10	14.25	14.25
Hang Seng Bk	86	85	85.25	86.25
Henderson Inv	8.05	7.85	8	7.90
Henderson Ld	64.50	63.75	64	64.75
HK China Gas	12.45	12.30	12.35	12.40
HK Electric	27	26.80	27	26.90
HK Telecomm	13.05	12.90	13.05	13.05
Hopewell Hdgs	4.05	3.95	3.95	4.03
HSBC Hdgs	189	188	189	189.50
Hutchison Wh	56.50	56	56.25	56.75
Hysan Dev	21.35	21.20	21.20	21.35
Johnson El Hdg	19.35	19.25	19.25	19.30
Kerry Props	17.50	17.30	17.50	17.40
New World Dev	42.60	41.30	42.50	41.40
Oriental Press	2.93	2.83	2.85	2.93
Pearl Oriental	2.98	2.90	2.90	2.95
SHK Props	81.25	79.75	81	81.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	5	4.88	5	4.95
Sino Land Co.	7.10	7	7.10	7.10
Sth China Post	6.65	6.50	6.50	6.65
Swire Pac A	59.50	58.75	58.75	58.75
Wharf Hdgs	29.40	28.90	29.10	29.40
Wheelock	16.10	15.70	15.80	16.10

Market Closed

The Johannesburg stock market was closed Monday for a holiday.

Jakarta
Composite index: 656.53 Previous: 662.48

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	5925	5900	5925	5925
Bk Intl Indon	1775	1750	1750	1750
Bk Negara	1375	1350	1350	1350
Gudang Garm	10750	10650	10650	10750
Indocement	3300	3225	3300	3225
Indofood	5000	4900	5000	4925
Indosat	6775	6675	6725	6675
Sampoerna HM	9825	9775	9800	9700
Semen Gresik	5975	5875	5950	5850
Telekomunikasi	3625	3550	3550	3600

Kuala Lumpur
Composite: 1074.86 Previous: 1089.45

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMMB Hdgs	17	16.80	17	17
Genting	13.90	13.60	13.70	13.80
Mal Banking	25.75	25.25	25.25	26
Mal Intl Ship F	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45
Petronas Gas	8.60	8.55	8.55	8.55
Proton	15	14.10	14.40	14.90
Public Bk	4.34	4.22	4.24	4.36
Renong	3.50	3.32	3.32	3.52
Resorts World	9.05	8.80	8.80	9.10
Rothmans PM	23.50	23.30	23.40	23.30
Sime Darby	7.75	7.70	7.80	7.75
Telekom Mal	17.60	17.10	17.30	17.60
Tenaga	11.50	11.30	11.30	11.40
Utd Engineers	18.50	17.50	17.80	18.70
YTL	10	9.90	10	10.10

London
FT-SE 100: 4389.78 Previous: 4369.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	8.26	8.13	8.26	8.17
Allied Domecq	4.37	4.30	4.35	4.35
Anglian Water	6.76	6.62	6.74	6.67
Argos	6.45	6.50	6.53	6.63
Asda Group	1.18	1.16	1.17	1.17
Assoc Br Foods	5.30	5.20	5.30	5.17
BAA	5.22	5.08	5.12	5.16
Barclays	11.36	10.78	11.17	10.92
Bass	8.04	7.93	8.01	7.95
BAT Ind	5.23	5.10	5.17	5.19
Bank Scotland	3.61	3.51	3.60	3.52
Blue Circle	4.20	4.14	4.19	4.15
BOC Group	9.20	9.10	9.15	9.17
Boots	6.95	6.88	6.95	6.89
BPB Ind	3.37	3.21	3.22	3.30
Brit Aerosp	13.44	13.20	13.24	13.48
Brit Airways	6.95	6.89	6.94	6.95
BG	1.82	1.77	1.81	1.79
Brit Land	5.63	5.55	5.62	5.57
Brit Petm	7.14	7.03	7.06	7.09
BSkyB	5.79	5.73	5.77	5.77
Brit Steel	1.46	1.43	1.45	1.45
Brit Telecom	4.55	4.43	4.49	4.44
BTR	2.55	2.48	2.52	2.51
Burmah Castrol	10.05	10	10.04	10.01
Burton Gp	1.53	1.51	1.53	1.52
Cable Wireless	4.82	4.70	4.79	4.71
Cadbury Schw	5.33	5.13	5.18	5.14
Carlton Comm	5.22	5.13	5.18	5.26
Coml Union	6.87	6.58	6.68	6.60
Compass Gp	6.84	6.76	6.80	6.81
Courtaulds	3.25	3.20	3.22	3.23
Dixons	5.05	4.97	4.99	5.04
Electrocomponents	4.03	3.98	4	4.04
EMI Group	12.23	12.15	12.19	12.24
Energy Group	4.95	4.85	4.88	4.90
Enterprise Oil	6.15	6.11	6.13	6.18
Fam Colonial	1.53	1.52	1.53	1.53
Genl Accident	8.55	8.19	8.52	8.36
GEC	3.72	3.67	3.69	3.69
GKN	9.17	9.06	9.14	9.15
Glaxo Wellcome	11.75	11.38	11.59	11.44
Granada Gp	8.89	8.70	8.87	8.73
Grand Met	5.12	5.05	5.10	5.07
GRE	2.78	2.68	2.72	2.80
Greenalls Gp	5.12	5.03	5.07	5.08
Guinness	5.17	5.10	5.13	5.13
GUS	6.47	6.39	6.43	6.41
Hays	5.59	5.48	5.48	5.62
HSBC Hldgs	15.63	15	15.17	15.09
ICI	7.03	6.90	7.01	7
Impl Tobacco	4.10	4.03	4.05	4.11
Kingfisher	6.70	6.62	6.65	6.69
Ladbroke	2.32	2.29	2.31	2.32
Land Sec	7.90	7.83	7.85	7.86
Lasmo	2.30	2.27	2.29	2.30
Legal Genl Grp	4.15	3.95	4.09	4.02
Lloyds TSB Gp	5.78	5.63	5.76	5.57
LucasVarity	1.89	1.83	1.84	1.91
Marks Spencer	5.02	4.94	4.96	4.98
MEPC	4.70	4.18	4.62	4.61
Mercury Asset	13.10	12.95	13.07	13.02
National Grid	2.25	2.21	2.25	2.21
Natl Power	5.33	5.23	5.30	5.25
NatWest	7.45	7.04	7.19	7.08
Next	6.55	6.43	6.50	6.58
Orange	2.17	2.13	2.16	2.15
P&O	5.99	5.91	5.93	5.97
Pearson	7.17	7.07	7.13	7.09
Pilkington	1.17	1.12	1.13	1.16
PowerGen	6.53	6.43	6.49	6.46
Premier Farnell	4.90	4.80	4.83	4.93
Prudential	5.92	5.63	5.91	5.75
Railtrack PP	4.57	4.49	4.52	4.52
Rank Group	4.35	4.28	4.30	4.30
Reckitt Coln	8.39	8.28	8.31	8.38
Redland	3.57	3.33	3.54	3.53
Reed Intl	11.35	11.15	11.19	11.25
Rentokil Initial	4.14	4.07	4.09	4.12
Reuters Hdgs	6.32	6.18	6.25	6.20
Rexam	3.18	3.08	3.10	3.16
RMC Group	9.73	9.50	9.52	9.53
Rolls Royce	2.49	2.44	2.46	2.44
Royal Bk Scot	5.74	5.57	5.72	5.57
RTZ reg	9.75	9.68	9.71	9.72
Royal & Sun All	4.83	4.58	4.67	4.55
Safeway	3.46	3.42	3.45	3.45
Sainsbury	3.26	3.21	3.24	3.22
Schroders	15.75	15.55	15.68	15.64
Scot Newcastle	6.70	6.65	6.67	6.74
Scot Power	3.77	3.73	3.75	3.73
Securicor	2.92	2.86	2.88	2.90
Severn Trent	7.73	7.60	7.69	7.60
Shell Transp R	10.97	10.64	10.67	10.71
Siebe	9.43	8.98	9.01	9.18
Smith Nephew	1.75	1.73	1.74	1.73
SmithKline	9.52	9.40	9.52	9.46
Smiths Ind	7.64	7.56	7.58	7.61
Sthern Elec	4.30	4.13	4.25	4.15
Stagecoach	6.07	5.98	6.04	6
Stand Charter	9.19	9.06	9.18	9.11
Tate & Lyle	4.57	4.52	4.56	4.55
Tesco	3.65	3.62	3.63	3.63
Thames Water	6.87	6.73	6.77	6.78
3i Group	5.05	4.98	5.03	5
TI Group	5.35	5.15	5.21	5.23
Tomkins	2.69	2.64	2.67	2.67
Unilever	16.53	16.17	16.24	16.24
Utd Assurance	4.70	4.63	4.67	4.64
Utd News	7.62	7.37	7.43	7.36
Utd Utilities	6.85	6.70	6.81	6.74
Vendome Lx uts	5.15	5.10	5.13	5.10
Vodafone	2.72	2.67	2.71	2.71
Whitbread	7.65	7.61	7.64	7.67
Williams Hdgs	3.33	3.15	3.33	3.18
Wolseley	5	4.90	4.98	4.92
WPP Group	2.56	2.52	2.54	2.52
Zeneca	18.32	18	18.28	18.11

Madrid
Bolsa index: 501.17 Previous: 499.21

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	21350	21230	21350	21240
ACESA	1670	1635	1660	1635
Aguas Barcelon	5500	5430	5480	5480
Argentaria	6460	6410	6460	6470
BBV	9350	9260	9320	9310
Banesto	1320	1240	1320	1235
Bankinter	20870	20370	20850	20370
Bco Centro Hisp	4425	4385	4410	4395
Bco Popular	30770	30050	30600	30800
Bco Santander	10360	10270	10310	10330
CEPSA	4600	4525	4600	4650
Continente	2495	2450	2450	2490
Corp Mapfre	7620	7500	7500	7500
Endesa	9880	9760	9860	9790
FECSA	1170	1150	1155	1160
Gas Natural	30600	30300	30510	30350
Iberdrola	1615	1600	1605	1610
Pryca	2500	2485	2495	2515
Repsol	6080	6000	6010	6080
Sevillana Elec	1285	1270	1285	1265
Tabacalera	7200	7120	7180	7110
Telefonica	3680	3635	3680	3655
Union Fenosa	1205	1190	1200	1200
Valenc Cement	1750	1710	1750	1750

Manila
PSE index: 2837.31 Previous: 2872.37

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ayala B	22	20.75	20.75	22
Ayala Land	21.25	20.50	21	26
Bk Philip Isl	156	150	150	157
C&P Homes	11	10.50	10.50	11.25
Manila Elec A	119	117	118	119
Metro Bank	610	595	595	600
Petron	10.25	10	10.25	10.25
PCIBank	352.50	345	350	342.50
Phil Long Dist	1555	1540	1545	1555
San Miguel B	83	83	83	82.50
SM Prime Hdg	7.30	7.20	7.30	7.30

Mexico
Bolsa index: 3757.25 Previous: 3782.62

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	44.30	43.80	43.80	44.40
Banacci B	17.00	16.94	16.94	16.98
Cemex CPO	27.15	26.75	26.80	27.00
Cifra C	12.40	12.18	12.24	12.34
Emp Moderna	41.00	40.75	40.75	40.75
Gpo Carso A1	47.45	46.95	47.30	46.95
Gpo F Bcomer	1.77	1.73	1.73	1.77
Gpo Fin Inbursa	27.10	27.05	27.05	27.05
Kimb Clark Mex	30.50	29.90	29.90	30.60
Televisa CPO	93.20	91.00	91.10	94.20
TelMex L	16.38	16.28	16.28	16.44

Milan
MIB Telematico: 12075.00 Previous: 12177.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	12045	11850	11950	12040
Bca Comm Ital	3595	3500	3560	3540
Bca Fideuram	4340	4250	4280	4295
Bca di Roma	1269	1236	1269	1253
Benetton	22300	21700	22300	22100
Credito Italiano	2350	2315	2340	2335
Edison	8890	8700	8710	8820
ENI	8830	8590	8605	8810
Fiat	5530	5340	5355	5430
Generali Assic	29400	28650	28650	29350
IMI	14720	14450	14460	14690
INA	2265	2250	2250	2250
Italgas	5790	5710	5730	5780
Mediaset	7095	7000	7045	7090
Mediobanca	10575	10460	10470	10500
Montedison	1155	1132	1134	1158
Olivetti	509	497	500	510
Parmalat	2490	2425	2470	2490
Pirelli	3745	3625	3635	3740
RAS	14295	14050	14120	14070
Rolo Banca	17300	17160	17300	17200
S Paolo Torino	11570	11400	11490	11400
Stet	7850	7735	7820	7740
Telecom Italia	4400	4320	4370	4380
TIM	5245	5160	5160	5190

Montreal
Industrials index: 2890.76 Previous: 2902.89

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bcz Mob Com	43.15	41½	41½	43.15
Cdn Tire A	24.80	24¾	24¾	24.85
Cdn Util A	31.90	31.70	31.90	32
CT Finl Svc	33	33	33	33.10
Gaz Metro	17.35	17.05	17¼	17.20
Gt-West Lifeco	23¾	23¾	23¾	23½
Imasco	36.90	36.85	36.90	37
Investors Grp	24.65	24.65	24.65	24.60
Loblaw Cos	17.45	17.25	17.40	17.30
Natl Bk Canada	15¼	15.10	15.15	15.20
Power Corp	28¼	28	28.20	28.60
Power Finl	26¼	26	26.10	26
Quebecor B	24.10	24.05	24.05	24½
Rogers Comm B	6.95	6.80	6.95	6.90
Royal Bk Cda	53.70	53.10	53.55	53.55

Oslo
OBX index: 595.72 Previous: 596.31

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	166	164	165	167
Bergesen Dy A	145	144	145	144
Christiania Bk	23.90	23.40	23.50	23.50
Den norske Bk	25.50	25.30	25.50	25.30
Elkem	138	133.50	137	135
Hafslund A	45	45	45	45
Kvaerner Asa	354	347	350	351
Norsk Hydro	346	343	343.50	342
Norske Skog A	240	238	238	238.50
Nycomed A	105	103	105	102.50
Orkla Asa A	596	585	587	593
Petlm GeoSvc	290	284	285	291
Saga Petlm A	119.50	118.50	118.50	119
Schibsted	126	124	124.50	125
Transocean Off	429	427	427	440
Storebrand Asa	46.50	43.10	43.50	44.40

Paris
CAC-40: 2550.25 Previous: 2536.26

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	842	826	831	835
AGF	184.70	183.20	183.60	184
Air Liquide	843	834	838	833
Alcatel Alsth	637	619	623	634
Axa-UAP	355.60	353.10	355.60	352.50
Bancaire	770	759	765	755
BIC	877	856	873	852
BNP	238.90	232.60	237.20	236.80
Canal Plus	1060	1025	1049	1045
Carrefour	3477	3436	3475	3436
Casino	270	262	265.50	257.50
CCF	254	251	252	251
Cetelem	669	659	669	655
Christian Dior	855	847	855	852
CLF-Dexia Fran	548	536	538	533
Credit Agricole	1255	1255	1255	1262
Danone	852	837	850	839
Elf-Aquitaine	559	549	557	554
Eridania BS	860	828	855	840
Eurodisney	9.90	9.75	9.90	9.85
Eurotunnel	6.65	6.50	6.60	6.65
Gen. Eaux	777	766	773	775
Havas	409	404.60	409	406.50
Imetal	810	801	810	810
Lafarge	366	359	360	355.70
Legrand	969	945	962	937
L'Oreal	1975	1951	1973	1947
LVMH	1348	1336	1344	1335
Lyon. Eaux	527	519	520	521
Michelin B	328	324.80	327	327.50
Paribas A	367.90	362	362.20	362
Pernod Ricard	297	292.20	295.20	293.40
Peugeot Cit	570	563	566	562
Pinault-Print	2350	2305	2336	2303
Promodes	1907	1871	1898	1868
Renault	134.80	128.50	132	130.20
Rexel	1600	1580	1589	1580
Rh-Poulenc A	183.90	181.20	182.40	184
Sanofi	539	526	535	530
Schneider	321.40	318	320.80	318.70
SEB	1019	996	1002	1009
SGS Thomson	402	395.80	397.80	394
Ste Generale	627	618	620	622
Sodexho	2709	2665	2695	2680
St Gobain	779	764	767	762
Suez	280.50	278.30	279.30	278.50
Synthelabo	689	675	680	670
Thomson CSF	179.50	176.10	176.20	176.70
Total B	468	460	467	463.60
Usinor	87.50	85	86.80	85.40
Valeo	349.20	341.10	345	346.50

São Paulo
Bovespa index: 9772.17 Previous: 9731.75

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bradesco Pfd	8.65	8.50	8.60	8.70
Brahma Pfd	724.00	723.00	723.50	724.00
Cemig Pfd	47.55	47.00	47.40	47.10
CESP Pfd	57.00	56.80	57.00	56.98
Copel	15.50	15.40	15.40	15.70
Eletrobras	475.00	467.00	473.00	469.00
Itaubanco Pfd	560.00	551.00	560.00	557.00
Light Servicos	450.00	449.00	449.00	451.00
Lightpar	334.00	330.00	334.00	330.00
Petrobras Pfd	221.00	217.00	220.50	219.00
Paulista Luz	162.00	160.00	161.00	160.00
Sid Nacional	37.70	37.60	37.60	37.70
Souza Cruz	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.42
Telebras Pfd	121.20	119.70	121.00	120.25
Telemig	166.00	165.00	166.00	166.00
Telerj	180.00	173.00	177.00	174.00
Telesp Pfd	305.00	299.00	304.00	303.00
Unibanco	37.04	36.50	37.04	36.41
Usiminas Pfd	1.24	1.22	1.23	1.23
CVRD Pfd	27.10	26.60	27.00	27.00

Seoul
Composite index: 704.16 Previous: 692.48

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Dacom	102500	98000	100000	98500
Daewoo Heavy	5050	4700	4870	4510
Hyundai Eng.	18800	18000	18200	18000
Kia Motors	16700	16200	16500	16300
Korea El Pwr	27300	26500	26900	26500
Korea Exch Bk	5900	5390	5860	5570
Korea Mob Tel	465000	453000	460000	452000
LG Semicon	28000	27000	27000	27300
Pohang Iron St	56000	53700	55100	53500
Samsung Display	42900	41200	42400	41200
Samsung Elec	62000	58500	61500	58500
Shinhan Bank	11000	10300	11000	10300

Singapore
Straits Times: 1996.79 Previous: 2019.60

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Pac Brew	7	6.95	6.95	7
Cerebos Pac	9	8.95	9	9
City Devlts	12.40	12	12	12.70
Cycle Carriage	14.50	14.20	14.40	14.50
Dairy Farm Int *	0.72	0.71	0.72	0.72
DBS foreign	17	16.90	17	17.10
DBS Land	4.66	4.58	4.58	4.62
Fraser & Neave	10.70	10.10	10.10	10.60
HK Land *	2.13	2.08	2.10	2.15
Jard Mathesn *	5.45	5.30	5.30	5.48
Jard Strategic *	3.38	3.34	3.38	3.38
Keppel	6.55	6.25	6.35	6.55
Keppel Bank	3.84	3.80	3.82	3.86
Keppel Fels	4.54	4.50	4.52	4.50
Keppel Land	3.90	3.88	3.90	3.90
OCBC foreign	16.90	16.40	16.40	16.80
OS Union Bk F	9.55	9.35	9.35	9.50
Parkway Hdgs	6	5.95	6	6.05
Sembawang	6.60	6.35	6.55	6.45
Sing Air foreign	12.50	12.30	12.40	12.70
Sing Land	6.60	6.45	6.45	6.50
Sing Press F	27	26.90	26.90	26.80
Sing Tech Ind	3.74	3.60	3.60	3.74
Sing Telecomm	2.51	2.39	2.40	2.52
Tat Lee Bank	3.32	3.28	3.32	3.36
Utd Industrial	1.13	1.10	1.10	1.14
Utd O'Sea Bk F	14	13.40	13.40	14.10
Wing Tai Hdgs	3.90	3.82	3.84	3.90

*: in U.S. dollars.

Stockholm
SX 16 index: 2708.47 Previous: 2758.27

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA B	106	102	104.50	103
ABB A	93.50	91.50	93.50	92.50
AssiDoman	194	189.50	191	193.50
Astra A	309	299	300	308
Atlas Copco A	195	184	190	188
Autoliv	290.50	283	284	283
Electrolux B	486	471	473	476
Ericsson B	239	231.50	237.50	249.50
Hennes B	1110	1097	1100	1110
Incentive A	509	505	508	518
Investor B	336	330	336	334
MoDo B	228	219	220	227
Nordbanken	249	234	234	244
Pharm/Upjohn	231	214.50	219	232
Sandvik B	194	185	193.50	189
Scania B	195	192	194	193.50
SCA B	171.50	164	167.50	172
S-E Banken A	80.50	79	80.50	80
Skandia Fors	224	217	223	221
Skanska B	334	325	334	330
SKF B	169.50	166	168.50	168.50
Sparbanken A	134.50	129	132	134.50
Stadshypotek A	190	190	190	190
Stora A	106	102	104.50	105
Sv Handles A	217	212	216	215.50
Volvo B	193.50	188	192	192

Sydney
All Ordinaries: 2461.70 Previous: 2434.70

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.18	8.10	8.13	8.18
ANZ Bkng	8.08	8.03	8.04	8.06
BHP	17.48	17.30	17.38	17.46
Boral	3.82	3.74	3.75	3.81
Brambles Ind.	23	22.75	22.75	22.88
CBA	13.74	13.65	13.73	13.72
CC Amatil	15.18	14.92	14.99	15.20
Coles Myer	6.18	6.16	6.17	6.17
Comalco	6.71	6.64	6.68	6.64
CRA	19.12	18.97	19	19.10
CSR	4.73	4.70	4.71	4.74
Fosters Brew	2.66	2.59	2.59	2.67
Goodman Fld	1.67	1.65	1.66	1.68
ICI Australia	12.11	12.05	12.05	12.20
Lend Lease	24.51	24.32	24.41	24.60
MIM Hdgs	1.75	1.72	1.73	1.75
Nat Aust Bank	17.30	16.98	17.18	17.07
Nat Mutual Hdg	1.95	1.91	1.95	1.92
News Corp	5.95	5.85	5.87	6.05
Pacific Dunlop	3.43	3.39	3.42	3.44
Pioneer Intl	4.23	4.14	4.22	4.15
Pub Broadcast	6.74	6.72	6.73	6.73
St George Bank	7.96	7.91	7.92	7.95
WMC	7.72	7.58	7.60	7.74
Westpac Bkng	6.96	6.80	6.85	6.97
Woodside Pet	10	9.85	9.96	9.89
Woolworths	3.78	3.71	3.74	3.74

Taipei
Stock Market index: 8660.76 Previous: 8661.72

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cathay Life Ins	165	161	162	162
Chang Hwa Bk	130	121	127	120.50
Chiao Tung Bk	74	73	73.50	73.50
China Developmt	120	117	117	118
China Steel	30.50	29.80	29.90	29.80
First Bank	128	121	125	120
Formosa Plastic	71.50	69.50	69.50	70.50
Hua Nan Bk	128	120	125.50	120
Intl Comm Bk	71.50	70	70.50	71
Nan Ya Plastics	75	73	73.50	73
Shin Kong Life	105	101	103	103.50
Taiwan Semi	93.50	90	90.50	89.50
Tatung	60	57.50	58.50	57
Utd Micro Elec	70	67	67	68.50
Utd World Chin	72.50	71	71.50	71.50

Tokyo
Nikkei 225: 18670.37 Previous: 18612.86

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1140	1110	1130	1100
All Nippon Air	726	715	722	716
Amway	3750	3670	3750	3670
Asahi Bank	750	715	730	770
Asahi Chem	710	700	701	715
Asahi Glass	1120	1100	1120	1110
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	1980	1960	1960	1990
Bk Yokohama	501	496	500	489
Bridgestone	2620	2580	2590	2610
Canon	2970	2910	2970	2950
Chubu Elec	2080	2060	2070	2070
Chugoku Elec	2060	2030	2030	2040
Dai Nipp Print	2280	2230	2250	2290
Daiei	606	600	604	608
Dai-Ichi Kang	1350	1320	1330	1330
Daiwa Bank	398	380	390	402
Daiwa House	1430	1400	1420	1430
Daiwa Sec	837	798	818	845
DDI	8290a	8110a	8200a	8030a
Denso	2780	2710	2760	2710
East Japan Ry	5290a	5200a	5280a	5390a
Eisai	2180	2150	2160	2170
Fanuc	4300	4260	4290	4300
Fuji Bank	1380	1350	1360	1370
Fuji Photo	4790	4740	4790	4740
Fujitsu	1320	1300	1320	1310
Hachijuni Bk	1130	1120	1120	1120
Hitachi	1150	1130	1150	1130
Honda Motor	3890	3840	3880	3840
IBJ	1310	1290	1310	1300
IHI	472	465	469	467
Itochu	588	580	586	585
Ito-Yokado	6090	6030	6090	6140
JAL	497	486	486	491
Japan Tobacco	8040a	7850a	7950a	7900a
Jusco	3800	3720	3800	3750
Kajima	567	546	547	546
Kansai Elec	2190	2170	2170	2170
Kao	1450	1420	1450	1410
Kawasaki Hvy	499	493	496	496
Kawa Steel	370	368	370	370
Kinki Nipp Ry	713	709	710	708
Kirin Brewery	1040	1010	1020	1000
Kobe Steel	235	231	234	235
Komatsu	916	901	910	916
Kubota	587	565	573	587
Kyocera	7410	7380	7400	7420
Kyushu Elec	2070	2050	2060	2060
LTCB	355	338	338	335
Marubeni	487	480	482	486
Marui	2040	2000	2000	2040
Matsu Comm	3220	3160	3190	3180
Matsu Elec Ind	2030	2010	2030	2010
Matsu Elec Wk	1240	1220	1240	1220
Mitsubishi	1180	1160	1170	1150
Mitsubishi Ch	409	401	407	407
Mitsubishi El	698	692	695	698
Mitsubishi Est	1650	1600	1610	1600
Mitsubishi Hvy	845	837	845	850
Mitsubishi Mat	887	877	878	910
Mitsubishi Tr	1310	1270	1310	1290
Mitsui	950	935	947	934
Mitsui Fudosn	1500	1460	1460	1470
Mitsui Trust	709	695	702	701
Murata Mfg	4540	4540	4540	4500
NEC	1540	1520	1530	1530
Nikon	1790	1770	1790	1780
Nikko Sec	690	654	680	697
Nintendo	9200	9100	9150	9150
Nipp Express	865	855	856	855
Nippon Oil	579	555	575	548
Nippon Steel	363	358	362	359
Nissan Motor	769	756	756	772
NKK	267	260	264	270
Nomura Sec	1390	1360	1370	1390
NTT	8780a	8700a	8740a	8840a
NTT Data	3680b	3630b	3670b	3650b
Oji Paper	612	609	609	602
Osaka Gas	304	299	300	302
Ricoh	1500	1490	1490	1490
Rohm	9440	9410	9410	9600
Sakura Bk	650	630	646	645
Sankyo	3370	3340	3360	3370
Sanwa Bank	1340	1310	1320	1330
Sanyo Elec	479	467	476	464
Secom	7640	7560	7570	7640
Seibu Rwy	6080	6010	6010	6070
Sekisui Chem	1230	1210	1220	1220
Sekisui House	1140	1110	1130	1140
Seven-Eleven	8000	7910	8000	7950
Sharp	1630	1600	1620	1630
Shikoku El Pwr	1920	1900	1910	1910
Shimizu	603	579	585	575
Shin-etsu Ch	2510	2460	2480	2500
Shiseido	1760	1680	1760	1670
Shizuoka Bk	1110	1090	1090	1090
Softbank	7510	7040	7160	7610
Sony	9150	9110	9140	9140
Sumitomo	822	812	821	812
Sumitomo Bk	1400	1380	1380	1400
Sumit Chem	519	513	518	519
Sumitomo Elec	1710	1690	1710	1690
Sumit Metal	313	307	312	310
Sumit Trust	1010	997	1010	990
Taisho Pharm	3060	3010	3050	3040
Takeda Chem	2840	2810	2830	2810
TDK	9100	9060	9080	9100
Tohoku El Pwr	1930	1910	1920	1910
Tokai Bank	920	905	913	913
Tokio Marine	1230	1210	1220	1220
Tokyo El Pwr	2240	2220	2240	2230
Tokyo Electron	4850	4790	4840	4800
Tokyo Gas	299	296	298	297
Tokyu Corp.	657	646	652	650
Tonen	1180	1160	1170	1170
Toppan Print	1620	1600	1610	1600
Toray Ind	788	774	779	788
Toshiba	699	691	693	693
Tostem	2900	2850	2900	2850
Toyo Trust	800	790	795	801
Toyota Motor	3600	3560	3570	3590
Yamanouchi	2670	2630	2650	2660

a: x 100; b: x 1,000

Toronto
TSE Industrials: 5829.97 Previous: 5835.31

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	23.30	23	23.30	23.10
Alberta Energy	30.70	30.55	30.60	30.65
Alcan Alum	46.20	45.65	46	45¾
Anderson Expl	16.40	16.10	16.20	16.40
Bk Montreal	49¾	48.85	49	49¾
Bk Nova Scotia	51.70	51.15	51.30	51.85
Barrick Gold	30.80	30.05	30.70	30.80
BCE	63.80	62.90	63.70	62.80
BC Telecomm	28¾	28	28.15	28.65
Biochem Pharm	23	23	23	23½
Bombardier B	27.95	27.60	27.65	27.70
Brascan A	30.45	30	30.30	30
Bre-x Minerals	4.10	3¾	3.70	3¼
Cameco	47.60	47	47	47.70
CIBC	31½	30.95	31.20	31.60
Cdn Natl Rail	53.05	52½	53.05	53.10
Cdn Nat Res	33½	33.10	33.30	33½
Cdn Occid Pet	27.65	27.35	27.45	27.80
Cdn Pacific	33.40	32.75	33¼	32.85
Cominco	36	35½	35.60	35½
Dofasco	23.70	23.45	23.45	23.60
Domtar	11¼	11.05	11¼	11.05
Donohue A	27.80	27.60	27.70	27¾
Du Pont Cda A	34.90	34¼	34½	34
Edper Group	23	22.85	23	23
EuroNev Mng	39½	34½	37¾	39.55
Fairfax Finl	297½	295	295	297
Falconbridge	28¼	27.70	28.15	28.10
Fletcher Chall A	22.60	22.30	22.60	22.35
Franco Nevada	64¾	63.90	64	67
Gulf Cda Res	10	9.70	10	9¾
Imperial Oil	61.90	61	61.60	61½
Inco	43¼	42¾	43.15	43.40
IPL Energy	41.15	41	41.05	41¼
Laidlaw B	18.90	18.70	18.70	18.90
Loewen Group	39.30	39.05	39.10	39.30
Macmill Bld	19.30	19	19.15	19.15
Magna Intl A	70¾	70.10	70½	70½
Methanex	12.60	12.30	12.55	12.40
Moore	28.55	28	28¼	28½
Newbridge Net	41.80	41	41.40	41
Noranda Inc	29¼	29.10	29.70	29.20
Norcen Energy	27.80	27.60	27.60	27.85
Nthern Telecom	99	97.70	98	98½
Nova	11½	11.30	11.45	11.40
Onex	22.90	22.60	22¾	22.90
Pancdn Petlm	55¼	53	55	55½
Petro Cda	21.70	21.55	21.65	21.60
Placer Dome	22.15	21.65	22.10	22¼
Poco Petlm	13.70	13.45	13.55	13.65
Potash Sask	106.20	105	105	105¼
Renaissance	39.90	39¼	39.90	40
Rio Algom	34.90	34.60	34.70	34.60
Rogers Cantel B	23.90	23.60	23.70	23¾
Seagram Co	52¼	51.90	52.20	52.10
Shell Cda A	53¼	53.60	53.60	54
Stone Consold	23	23	23	22.85
Suncor Energy	64	63.40	63.80	63.90
Talisman Eny	42	41.40	41.40	42
Teck B	28¼	27.70	27.85	28.30
Teleglobe	39.95	39½	39½	39.80
Telus	19.60	19.45	19.45	19½
Thomson	28.40	27¾	28¼	28¼
TorDom Bank	38¼	38½	38.55	38.85
Transalta	15.45	15.70	15½	15.35
TransCda Pipe	25.40	25.20	25.30	25.40
Trimark Finl	42½	42	42½	42.10
Trizec Hahn	29.10	28.30	29.10	28.40
TVX Gold	7.70	7.40	7.65	7¾
Westcoast Eny	23.80	23.55	23.60	23¾
Weston	71	70	70.15	70½

Vienna
ATX index: 1202.57 Previous: 1206.21

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Boehler-Uddeh	915	888	892	882
Creditanst Pfd	458	453.50	456	458
EA-Generali	3150	3106	3106	3110
EVN	1594	1568	1575	1589
Flughafen Wien	503	496.50	499.40	498
OMV	1390	1356	1361.50	1354.80
Oest Elektriz	855.90	844	853.10	847.80
VA Stahl	490	485.50	485.50	488.75
VA Tech	1913	1885	1890	1887
Wienerberg Bau	2732.75	2704	2704	2732.75

Wellington
NZSE-40 index: 2240.22 Previous: 2251.57

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	4.12	4.05	4.12	4.10
Brierly Invt	1.28	1.26	1.26	1.29
Carter Holt ord	3.17	3.11	3.17	3.11
Fletch Ch Bldg	4.08	4.05	4.07	4.08
Fletch Ch Eny	4.12	4.10	4.11	4.12
Fletch Ch Forst	1.92	1.89	1.92	1.90
Fletch Ch Paper	3.06	3.05	3.06	3.05
Lion Nathan	3.46	3.36	3.42	3.48
Telecom NZ	6.50	6.42	6.43	6.53
Wilson Horton	11.65	11.65	11.65	11.60

Zurich
SPI index: 3037.56 Previous: 3024.24

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABB B	1770	1758	1764	1766
Adecco B	477	475	476.50	480
Alusuisse R	1274	1261	1271	1250
Ares-Serono B	1938	1900	1930	1925
Atel R	880	880	880	865
Baer Hdg B	1805	1790	1795	1785
Baloise Hdg R	3135	3050	3130	3070
BK Vision	910	906	910	908
Clariant R	834	827	830	822
Crd Suisse Gp R	165.50	162.75	163.75	163.75
Elektrowatt B	531	527	530	532
Ems-Chemie	6090	6035	6085	6040
ESEC Hdg	4540	4430	4430	4550
Holderbank B	1147	1126	1129	1137
Liechtenst LB B	475	475	475	475
Nestle R	1771	1753	1771	1754
Novartis R	1897	1884	1893	1885
Oerlikon Buehr R	149.50	148	149.50	147.75
Pargesa Hld B	1743	1710	1740	1744
PharmVisn B	712	707	711	707
Richemont A	2115	2100	2110	2105
Pirelli PC	228	227	225	228
Roche Hdg PC	12215	12135	12175	12110
SBC R	318.50	313.50	315	315
Schindler PC	1770	1760	1760	1778
SGS B	3055	3015	3015	3040
SMH B	819	799	818	802
Sulzer R	1021	1013	1015	1014
Swiss Reinsr R	1668	1647	1650	1656
Swissair R	1340	1330	1334	1328
UBS B	1355	1347	1353	1341
Winterthur R	1035	1021	1030	1024
Zurich Assur R	465	463	464.50	464.50

The Trib Index

Prices as of 3:00 P.M. New York time.

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	150.69	+0.08	+0.05	+1.04
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	108.24	-0.87	-0.80	-12.31
Europe	159.36	-0.06	-0.04	-1.14
N. America	175.31	+1.19	+0.68	+8.28
S. America	143.93	-0.02	-0.01	+25.78
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	182.85	-0.75	-0.41	+8.98
Consumer goods	172.22	+1.15	+0.67	+8.68
Energy	177.74	-0.25	-0.14	+4.12
Finance	108.50	-0.42	-0.39	-6.83
Miscellaneous	152.18	-0.80	-0.52	-5.93
Raw Materials	178.09	-0.42	-0.24	+1.55
Service	141.40	+0.35	+0.25	+2.97
Utilities	132.41	+0.04	+0.03	-7.70

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar values of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free booklet is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. — Compiled by Bloomberg News

FOR INVESTMENT INFORMATION
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NYSE

Monday's 4 P.M. Close
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

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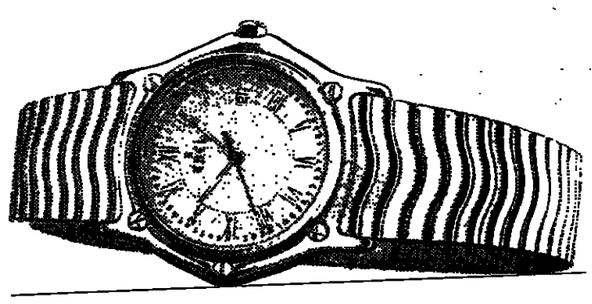

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Continued on Page 16

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Korean Banks to Make Loans to Salvage Jinro

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — Creditor banks of Jinro Group agreed Monday to extend emergency loans to save the liquor giant from becoming the third South Korean conglomerate to go bankrupt this year.

A spokesman for Commercial Bank of Korea, Jinro's key creditor bank, said it had agreed to provide 80.4 billion won ($90.1 million) in emergency loans to six subsidiaries of Jinro Group before the end of July.

The creditor banks plan to extend the loans in the first half of this year, the Korea Federation of Banks said. The banks froze the group's debt payments under an earlier agreement.

Analysts said the bank loans would be enough to keep Jinro afloat until the group, South Korea's 19th-largest conglomerate, raises its own funds by disposing of some of its real-estate and other unprofitable affiliates.

"The bank decision today indicates their strong will not to let bankruptcies in the top 50 conglomerates happen again, at least this year," said Yoo Choon Yup, an analyst at Hanwha Securities Co. He was referring to the fact that this is an election year in South Korea. The decision followed an announcement by the chairman of Jinro Group, Chang Jin Ho, that he would spin off one or two of Jinro's six cash-strapped subsidiaries.

The spokesman for Commercial Bank of Korea said the loans would be supplied after Mr. Chang issued a letter allowing banks to dispose of his family's stake in the group's affiliates.

It was unclear whether Mr. Chang had already agreed to give up his family's ownership and management rights in the group.

The six subsidiaries to be helped by the banks are Jinro Ltd., Jinro Industries Co., Jinro General Foods Co., Jinro Coors Brewing Co., Jinro Construction Co. and Jinro Mass Merchandising Inc.

Together, they account for 81 percent of the group's total sales and 90 percent of its total assets, according to group statistics.

Representatives from 29 creditors convened Monday to work out details of their joint bailout measures. Among other steps, commercial banks and merchant banks would defer debt payments from the six Jinro units until July 27, the Commercial Bank spokesman said.

The amount of new loans to be provided by each bank will be in proportion to its existing loans to Jinro.

Jinro, built around brewing, distribution and construction, had $3.5 billion in debt by the end of February because of its hasty expansion into new ventures and a widening financial burden.

Large industrial concerns including Daewoo Corp. and Hyundai Corp. are negotiating to buy some of its holdings, according to reports.

Jinro's troubles underline the problems faced by South Korea's biggest companies. An economic slowdown has left many short of cash after beginning ambitious expansion efforts in the 1990s.

The Hanbo and Sammi groups collapsed this year under a combined debt of $8.2 billion. *(AFP, Reuters)*

Figure in Hanbo Case Kills Self, Police Say

The Associated Press

SEOUL — A former bank executive who had been questioned by Parliament in a bribery scandal that has rocked the government, was found hanged at his home Monday, the police said.

Police officers confirmed that Park Suk Tae, 59, had killed himself but said that his motive was not known.

Mr. Park, a former loan officer at Korea First Bank, had been questioned by a parliamentary committee investigating the collapse of Hanbo Steel & General Construction Co. in January.

The steelmaker had $6 billion in debt, much of it in loans made by Korea First Bank.

Hong Kong: Ad Hot Spot

For Handover, Media Sell Space at Record Price

Bloomberg News

HONG KONG — The first thing viewers of Hong Kong's biggest television station will see after the colony's July 1 handover to China might be an invitation to leave.

A local travel agent, whose name has not yet been released, paid $100,000 — 50 times the usual price — for a 60-second spot that will appear just after midnight as Hong Kong's final evening as a British colony ends.

"Usually, after midnight there isn't so much demand," said Leung Kin-wah, controller of sales and marketing at Television Broadcasts Ltd., the territory's biggest broadcaster.

"But on June 30, our handover coverage is packed with commercials. It's a golden opportunity to tap companies that wouldn't usually use television advertising."

The gilt-edged time slot highlights the price that companies are willing to pay to demonstrate their commitment to Hong Kong after the handover.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., the only local long-haul airline, and Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., one of the biggest developers, are planning advertising campaigns whose theme is expected to be "Welcome Back — What Took So Long?" according to advertising executives in the territory.

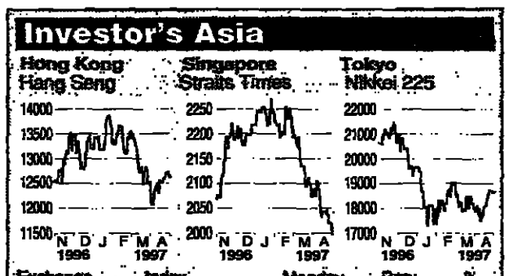
Bank of East Asia Ltd. spent "a few million dollars" to sponsor a 100-day series of two-minute programs on the handover, Mr. Leung said. The broadcaster hopes to sell 20 million Hong Kong dollars ($2.6 million) of advertising for programs related to the handover. It had advertising income of 2 billion dollars for all of last year.

Advertisers are far more optimistic about Hong Kong's future now than they were six months ago, said John Marcom, publisher of Time Asia.

"Advertisers don't like being associated with anything that might be negative," he said. "It's really changed a lot in six months."

Maggie Choi, media director at Zenith Media (H.K.) Ltd., said that while that agency's clients were not "running to burn their money just to participate," business is still up one-third from last year.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	12,610.17	12,645.76	-0.28
Singapore	Straits Times	1,996.79	2,019.60	-1.13
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,461.70	2,474.70	-0.53
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	18,670.37	18,612.86	+0.31
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,074.86	1,089.45	-1.34
Bangkok	SET	672.48	684.00	-1.68
Seoul	Composite Index	704.16	692.48	+1.69
Taipei	Stock Market Index	6,660.76	6,661.72	-0.01
Manila	PSE	2,837.31	2,872.37	-1.22
Jakarta	Composite Index	656.53	652.48	+0.62
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,240.22	2,253.57	-0.59
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,825.51	3,825.57	Unch.

Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

Vietnam's Trade Gap Shrinks 30%

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HANOI — Vietnam released statistics Monday showing double-digit growth in industrial output and a trade deficit that fell 30 percent, but a government report expressed concern about signs of economic slowdown.

The General Statistics Office said industrial production rose 13.8 percent in the first four months of this year from the same period in 1996. Meanwhile, the country's trade deficit, a growing cause for concern last year as imports rose faster than goods could be sold abroad, narrowed sharply from a year earlier, to $962 million.

The figures may ease concern that the trade deficit was reaching levels that risked leaving Vietnam with a crippling debt burden. Vietnam's trade deficit in 1996 was $4 billion, a record high and equal to about 18 percent of the nation's gross domestic product.

But despite the apparently glowing picture painted by those figures, a government report disclosed growing concern in official circles about economic stagnation. It pointed to news that consumer prices had dropped for the second month in row, taking the year-on-year inflation rate down to 1.6 percent, the lowest in more than a decade. *(Reuters, Bloomberg)*

Very briefly:

• **Western Australia** faces a statewide 24-hour strike Tuesday as workers protest plans to introduce laws banning industrial action that has not been authorized by a secret ballot. Under the laws, striking workers can be sued by their employers, and union officials' rights of entry into workplaces will be restricted.

• About 800 workers at **Sam Yang Co.**, a Vietnamese supplier to **Nike Inc.**, stopped work for several hours over the weekend to protest their contracts; workers at a Nike supplier in **Indonesia** also staged a protest to try to get their pay raised to the equivalent of $2.50 a day.

• **Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.** is being investigated by South Korean antitrust regulators after a local bottler, **Bum Yang Food Co.**, complained that the U.S. company had "unfairly" stopped supplying extract to Bum Yang after trying to buy its plants and sales network. Coca-Cola plans to spend $400 million on a new bottling system in South Korea.

• **Shiseido Co.**, Japan's largest cosmetics maker, bought **Helene Curtis Japan Inc.** from **Unilever NV** of the Netherlands. Terms were not disclosed.

• **Yamaichi Securities Co.** reported a parent-company net loss of 164.8 billion yen ($1.3 billion) for the year that ended in March, reversing a net profit of 15.9 billion yen a year earlier. Much of the loss came from a write-off of 150 billion yen in financial assistance to affiliates. *AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters*

Japan's Auto Exports Rise 7.5% for First Annual Increase in 5 Years

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Japan reported its first annual increase in auto exports in five years Monday, a 7.5 percent gain for the year that ended in March, helped by a weak yen and strong U.S.-bound exports.

Total motor-vehicle exports rose 6.2 percent from the previous year, to 3,847,865 units, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said. Car exports grew to 2,967,568 units, the association said, exports of trucks increased 1.9 percent, to 835,330, and bus exports were up 3 percent, to 44,967.

Meanwhile, Japan's industrial output, which declined in March for the second consecutive month, rose 4.1 percent for the year, compared with a 2.0 percent rise the previous year.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry said output in March was down 1.5 percent from the previous month, after a 3.7 percent fall in February. But the March figure was better than the 1.8 percent decline that had been forecast by many economists. For April, the ministry forecast a rise in industrial output of 1.9 percent from March, revised from a previous forecast of a 1.0 percent gain.

"The trend in the quarterly production movement and the sharp upward revision to the April forecast suggests the significant strength of industrial production will be maintained," a ministry official said.

The automakers' group forecast a steady export performance for the sector. Although the U.S. market for its vehicles might shrink, it said, continued strong shipments to the Middle East and Central and South America would keep total exports from falling.

Vehicle shipments to the United States rose 5.3 percent to 1,169,420 in the latest year, the first gain there in two years, the association said. Japanese exports had more than 30 percent of the U.S. passenger-car market — a level that threatened to bring countermeasures from the leading U.S. automakers, analysts said.

Vehicle exports to the rest of Asia fell 4 percent, to 606,415, for the first decline in two years as Japanese makers shifted production to Thailand, the Philippines and other countries.

In terms of value, Japan's annual vehicle exports fell 1.2 percent from the previous year, to $78.34 billion, their second consecutive annual decline. *(AFP, Bloomberg)*

China Consolidating Car Firms

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING — China plans to organize its "scattered and disorderly" auto industry into six large plants in place of the 126 small factories that dot the country, the official China Daily reported Monday.

The publication also said Beijing planned to consolidate the industry into three large companies — echoing the U.S. "big three" of Chrysler Corp., Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. — by 2010.

CISCO: *Firm Works on Making the Internet Pay*

Continued from Page 11

vice and employee benefits.

These tasks make up many of the nuts-and-bolts operations of the modern economy, consuming millions of hours of labor and hundreds of billions of dollars a year.

If such work can be made more efficient, the economic payoff could be considerable. No wonder companies have come to view Internet technology as a communications tool that can reduce the expense of many transactions, whether buying factory equipment from outside suppliers or processing expense accounts.

Various electronic systems for linking businesses have been available for years, but these usually required costly private data networks and specially made software. As such, these first-generation electronic communications were available only to an elite group of big companies and their chief suppliers.

But Internet technology — a set of public-domain software standards and a global web of computer networks — is transforming these economics, making it cheaper and easier to set up in-house corporate networks and establish electronic ties with outsiders of all sizes.

As a result, the corporate dash to the Internet is not merely for big companies any longer. The race also includes thousands of small strivers, such as Dakota Electric Supply Co. in Fargo, North Dakota, and Strong Tool Co. of Cleveland.

Today's corporate uses of Internet technology fall into two broad categories: electronic communication inside company walls, which often replaces mountains of paperwork; and electronic communication outside the company walls, as a means of conducting business-to-business commerce or sharing information with suppliers and customers anywhere in the world.

"We're trying to reduce transaction costs, and the Internet is the way to do it," said Arne Breikjern, a marketing manager at Dakota Electric Supply, a 125-person concern that sells goods ranging from light switches to telephone cable. "That's as true for us in North Dakota as it is in Silicon Valley."

Dakota Electric Supply's Internet site on the Web went up last October on a business-to-business commerce service run by International Business Machines Corp. The company, a $40 million-a-year business, has invested $5,000 in the site so far, and, although the network has received electronic-mail inquiries from as far away as Australia, sales have been scarce.

Still, Mr. Breikjern is not discouraged by the slow start. "I have absolutely no doubt that a large portion, perhaps even a majority, of our business will be done on the Internet someday," he said.

Lured by the Internet's cost-saving appeal, thousands of corporate newcomers to cyberspace are expected to begin selling goods to one another on line, whether power turbines or toilet paper. Such business-to-business commerce, estimated at $600 million last year, is projected to soar to $66 billion by 2000, according to Forrester Research Inc.

Consumer commerce, however, will lag far behind, Forrester predicts. By 2000, the research firm estimates, on-line retailing will increase to $7 billion. That would be up sharply from last year's $530 million but barely over one-tenth of the anticipated market in business-to-business sales.

SingTel Drags Market Down

Bloomberg News

SINGAPORE — Stock prices plunged to their lowest level in more than two years Monday as Singapore Telecommunications Ltd. extended its slide to a record low amid concern about new competition.

The Straits Times index of 30 stocks fell 22.81 points, or 1.13 percent, to 1,996.79, its first close below 2,000 since Jan. 25, 1995. Singapore Telecommunications fell 13 cents, or 5 percent, to 2.38 Singapore dollars ($1.65).

SingTel's monopoly ended April 1, when MobileOne Asia Pte. became a competitor in mobile-phone services. SingTel also faces competition in paging services.

Creative Technology Posts Strong Results

Bloomberg News

SINGAPORE — Creative Technology Ltd.'s shares soared 5.9 percent Monday to their highest point in more than two years on third-quarter results that were better than expected and on a rosy outlook from the world's biggest maker of computer sound cards.

The stock has now risen 64 percent this month.

The results prompted analysts to raise their earnings forecast for Creative, best known for its Sound Blaster cards, which bring sound to personal computers.

The company had earnings of $44.2 million, or 48 cents a share, in the quarter ended March 31. In the year-earlier period, charges related to bloated inventories resulted in a net loss of $33.1 million. The average forecast by analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research called for earnings of about 30 cents a share for the quarter.

Creative's stock ended at 21.50 Singapore dollars ($14.89), up 1.20, its highest closing price Oct. 25, 1994. Trading totaled 371,950 shares, more than twice the stock's three-month daily average.

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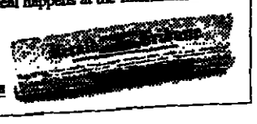

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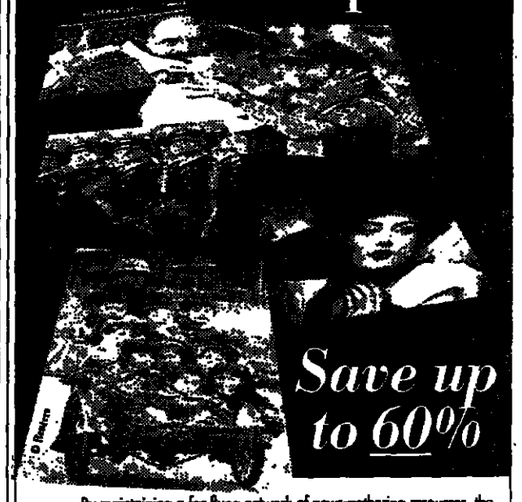

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Russia Strikes Late

ICE HOCKEY Russia scored three goals in the third period Monday to beat Germany, 5-1, in the World Championships in Finland.

With Russia leading, 2-1, defenseman Anatoli Fedotov hammered in a shot in the 47th minute give his team a two-goal lead. With 21 seconds left, Mikhail Sarmatin scored into an empty goal. Alexei Morozov chipped in Russia's fifth goal with two seconds to go.

Bruno Zarrillo scored the tying and winning goals as Italy recovered from a three-goal deficit to beat Latvia, 5-4. *(Reuters)*

Graf Will Return in Berlin

TENNIS Steffi Graf will return to tournament play at the German Open, which begins May 12, tournament officials said Monday. Graf has not played for three months because of an injury. *(Reuters)*

• Top-seeded Michael Chang beat South Africa's Grant Stafford, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, Sunday in the final of the U.S. Men's Clay Court Championships in Florida. It was Chang's fourth title this year. He climbed to No. 2 in the ATP world rankings on Monday. *(AP)*

Sri Lanka Edges in Front

CRICKET Sri Lanka bowled Pakistan out for 292 in Colombo on Monday for a first innings lead of 39. Sri Lanka reached 102 without loss in its second innings at the close of the third day's play. *(Reuters)*

Women Accepted at Last

ROWING Leander, which is based on the Thames in London and is the oldest rowing club in the world, voted Sunday to drop a 179-year ban on women members in order to qualify for British national lottery money. *(Reuters)*

Nobilo Wins Playoff

GOLF Frank Nobilo birdied six of his final 11 holes and added a scrambling par on the first hole of a playoff with Brad Faxon to win the Greater Greensboro Chrysler Classic on Sunday.

Nobilo, a New Zealander, started the day five shots off the lead and shot a 5-under-par 67 in the rain to match Faxon (72) at 14-under 274. Nobilo earned $342,000 for his first U.S. PGA Tour title. *(AP)*

Fighting Players Fined

BASKETBALL Sam Mitchell of the Minnesota Timberwolves was fined $10,000 and Kevin Willis of the Houston Rockets $7,500 by the NBA on Monday for fighting during a playoff game.

• Mike Dunleavy announced his resignation Saturday after five disappointing years as Milwaukee Bucks general manager. *(AP)*

Shilton Kicked Out

SOCCER Leyton Orient of the English third division said Monday that it planned to release Peter Shilton, the 47-year-old former England national team goalkeeper, because he could not kick the ball far enough.

"Peter is magnificent for his age and if he could kick a ball I would keep him," said Tommy Taylor the Orient manager.

"It sounds silly but you need a goalkeeper to kick it into your opponents' penalty box to make chances in this division."

Shilton clocked up his 1,000th English League appearance during the 10 matches he played for Orient after joining it from West Ham in November. *(Reuters)*

Bewitched, Bothered, Bewildered Bullets

Jordan (55 Points) Puts On a Show As Bulls Jump to 2-0 Series Lead

By Ira Berkow
New York Times Service

CHICAGO — The cold, bold scientific facts should probably be presented even before the shimmering artistry: Michael Jordan scored 55 points as the Bulls beat the Washington Bullets, 109-104, in Chicago.

That was more than half his team's points, as he paced — no, pulled, pushed, lifted, verbally challenged and carried like some kind of magnificent flying spirit — the Bulls to a 2-0 lead in their three-of-five-game playoff series.

Jordan accomplished his feat — the eighth time in his career that he has compiled more than 50 points in a playoff game — by scoring 20 of his team's

NBA PLAYOFFS

23 fourth-quarter points on Sunday night. Only a 3-point shot by Scottie Pippen down the stretch interrupted Jordan's spectacular streak.

"That shot gave me some relief," Jordan said later. "It was like the cavalry was getting some help. And then I got recharged."

Bernie Bickerstaff, the Bullets' coach, said: "We did everything conceivable to contain Michael. He basically put them on his shoulders. He showed why he is probably the best basketball player who is playing today."

Bickerstaff said he had told his team regarding Jordan: "Make him be great." He shrugged. "And he was."

Chris Webber, the Bullets' center/forward, said: "It was so frustrating. He would go by three defenders."

The Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson, said it was "the best game Michael has played this season." And Chicago needed just that kind of game.

"They're a young team, and they're playing with a lot of hunger," Jordan said of the Bullets, "and they pushed us hard."

They pushed so hard that the Bulls were behind, 65-58, at the half, and Jordan, who had 26 points by then, raised his voice in the locker room, blasting his team for a lackluster effort. "And in our building!" he said. "I was mad."

Dennis Rodman, who had been suffering with an injured left knee, returned to the game midway through the third period with a more comfortable brace than the one he wore in the first half, and immediately helped pick up the team on the rebounding end. But it was Jordan who hit two jump shots to bring the Bulls to within 2 points.

Then Luc Longley, the center, hit a jumper to tie the game, and Jordan hit a 3-pointer to give the Bulls the lead for the first time since the first minutes of the game, at 76-73.

But the Bullets kept making runs at the Bulls. "I'm proud of my team," Bickerstaff said. "They hung in there when they could have surrendered."

They came back within 86-84 with 10:45 left in the fourth quarter. Jordan hit two free throws and a jump shot and a driving dunk. Again, the Bullets fought back, and Webber sank a 3-point shot to bring the Bullets within 1 point, 94-93, with about six and a half minutes left in the game. It was Webber's third 3-pointer in five tries in the game.

"I didn't know he could shoot from there so well," Jordan said.

Not to worry.

Jordan hit a lay-up and a 15-foot jumper, then stole the ball and hit perhaps the most spectacular of his routinely spectacular shots in the game. He came across the free throw line, dribbling to his right, seemed to trip over his defender, Calbert Cheaney, and went up for a jump shot. Juwan Howard leaped to block it, but Jordan hung, hung, hung in the air, then as he began to descend, he lofted the ball up, and in.

Pippen, who was observing this piece of mastery nearby, put his hands to his head in disbelief. The crowd of nearly 20,000 screamed. It was now 100-93 with 4:06 left.

And still the Bullets would not collapse. With 53 seconds left, Rod Strickland hit two free throws, and it was 105-102.

"Are you tired?" asked Cheaney, who was guarding Jordan, hoping to distract the scoring machine even just a little. "No," replied Jordan, "because we haven't won yet."

Then he hit a driving lay-up, and, the next time down, was fouled and sank two free throws.

The only other Bulls scoring in double figures were Pippen, with 14 points, and Ron Harper with 10. Chaney led the Bullets with 26, while Tracy Murray, who had a hot hand in the first half, finished with 22.

"I have no problem carrying the team if I have to," said Jordan, who is being paid $30 million by the Bulls this season. "That's what I get paid the big dollars for. I'm the leader. I want to win. I want to win another championship."

In other games, The Associated Press reported:

Lakers 107, Trail Blazers 93 Shaquille O'Neal scored 30 points as Los Angeles made the most of its home-court advantage, jumping to a 2-0 lead in its series against Portland.

The Blazers did a better job of containing O'Neal, who had 46 points in Game 1, but Eddie Jones had 19 points for the Lakers. Elden Campbell added 16, and Nick Van Exel had 13 points and nine assists.

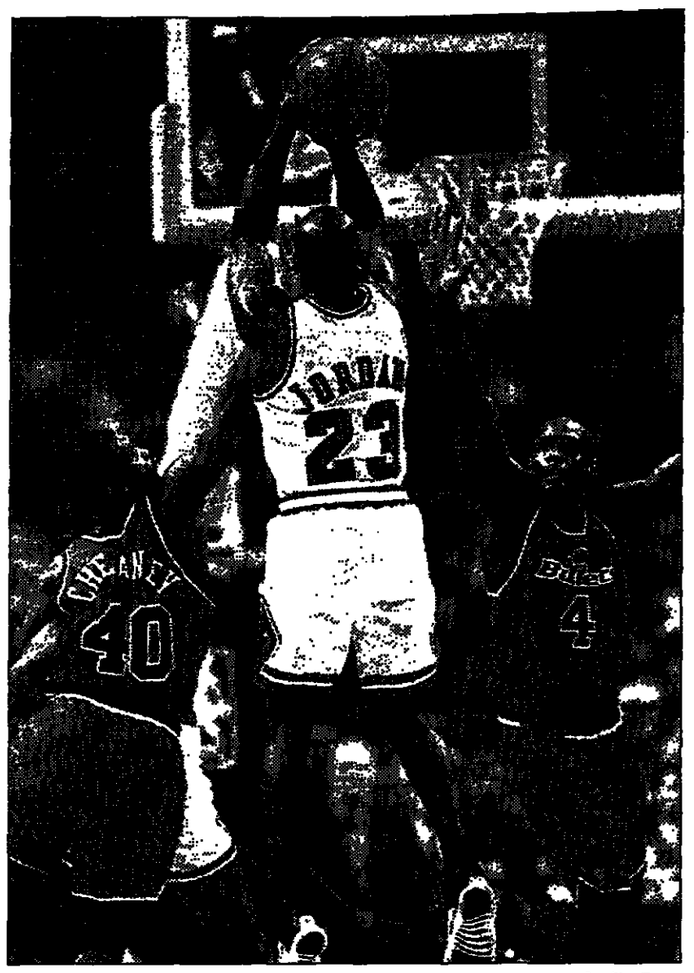
The Lakers went ahead for good by outscoring the Blazers, 13-2, to start the second half, giving them a 62-53 lead. They blew the game open early in the fourth quarter.

SuperSonics 122, Suns 78 In Seattle, Shawn Kemp had 23 points and 15 rebounds, and Gary Payton scored 23 points to lead Seattle to a 44-point victory.

The defending Western Conference champs, using the fastbreak with abandon against the smaller Suns, scored 22 of the game's first 24 points and stayed ahead by at least 10 points for the rest of the night.

Pistons 93, Hawks 80 In Atlanta, the Pistons outscored the Hawks 29-15 in the fourth quarter to give themselves a chance to clinch the best-of-five series on their home court, where the next two games will be played.

AP
The Miami Heat's coach, Pat Riley, exhorting his team to victory.



Scott Olson/Reuters
Michael Jordan going up for a jump shot against the Washington Bullets.

A Game to Remember From 'Best to Ever Play'

By Michael Wilbon
Washington Post Service

CHICAGO — It was during the stretch when Michael Jordan was scoring 14 straight points for the Bulls that Tim Legler thought to himself: "This is O.K., because the guy is going to start missing. When his teammates are excluded from the offense like this, all he has to do is hit one cold spell, one slightly bad stretch. His teammates will be cold because they won't have shot the ball in 10 minutes. If we can just cool him off for two or three shots in a row."

It was absolutely, perfectly, totally logical reasoning, except for one thing: Jordan never hit that cold spell. Never hit a slightly bad stretch. Didn't look for or at his teammates, who hadn't done squat anyway.

Calbert Cheaney played the defensive game of his life Sunday, scored a team-high 26 and still his plus-minus when the dust settled was somehow minus-29.

After eight years out of the playoffs, this was the Washington Bullets' NBA baptism by Michael Jordan. It was such a wondrous solo performance, Jordan publicly apologized to the Bulls' offensive coordinator, Tex Winter, for just dissing the entire team system with his 55-point rant. "Sorry, about the triangle, Tex," he said of the famed triangle offense.

There were no apologies to the Bullets, however, who have joined the Celtics, the Heat, the Suns, the Cavaliers and the Knicks as victims of a 50-point playoff outburst by the greatest basketball player who ever lived. Like all of the above, there was nothing the Bullets could do in their 109-104 loss.

Cheaney took away Jordan's favorite not-expending-much-energy shot, the post-up. The Bullets used Juwan Howard and Tracy Murray to double-team. They forced Jordan to take outrageous, off-balance shots with the 24-second clock winding to nothing. At least four times, Cheaney had his hand on the ball, literally blocking Jordan's shot, but Jordan pulled loose, re-cocked and got off a good shot anyway. After the best defensive game of his life, Cheaney needed consoling.

"We did everything conceivable," Bernie Bickerstaff said. "Calbert played a great game. He just met Mr. Jordan."

Harvey Grant: "What can you do? He was on a mission. This is why he's the best player to ever play the game." Grant then looked at Rod Strickland and said, "Why did he have to do it today?"

Tim Legler: "It's like he was looking at certain spots on the floor and just went there and elevated and just left you on the floor. To put on that performance, when the stakes are that high. You have to look where he jumps and where he lands. He's lands eight to 10 feet away from where he jumps. He's fading away. He's jumping sideways. He's holding the ball until the last possible moment before he hits the ground."

Chris Webber: "Not only does he go by three defenders, but he seems to be the only one doing anything. He's the sole reason they won. There's no special solution, no Jordan rules. We're not the old Pistons. He put the nail in our coffin, no one else."

Jordan: "Once I got in that mode, I just couldn't turn it off. I felt compelled to stay in that mode."

Every word of it is true. It's the reason why you watch Michael Jordan and the Bulls above all others. It's the reason the NBA's popularity has skyrocketed. It's the reason kids from Eastern Europe to the Caribbean who would otherwise never have heard of the NBA are wearing Jordan T-shirts and basketball shoes. That one play late in the game, with the Bullets behind, 98-93, when Jordan took Cheaney, Murray and Howard off the dribble was vintage '80s Jordan.

Titleist Pulls Ads Over Piece About LPGA

By Constance L. Hays
New York Times Service

The largest advertiser in Sports Illustrated's Golf Plus supplement has suspended more than $1 million in advertising after the U.S. sports magazine published an article on April 7 that detailed the lesbian party scene at the Ladies Professional Golfers Association's Nabisco Dinah Shore tournament.

Wally Uihlein, the chairman and chief of Titleist and Foot-Joy Worldwide, said that he halted most of the $1.5 million his company had planned to spend this year because he had been disturbed for some time about the tone of articles on women's golf that had appeared in Sports Illustrated or Golf Plus.

"The Dinah piece was the straw that broke the camel's back," Uihlein said. "It's just symptomatic of a condescending mind-set toward women in golf in general."

The other articles were a feature in the magazine about the golfer Muffin Spencer-Devlin acknowledging that she was a lesbian, and an item about the golfer Laura Baugh, who had been promoted for her good looks by the LPGA, the article contended, but who had earned far more in endorsements than tournament winnings and wound up in treatment for alcoholism and an eating disorder.

The Dinah Shore article, written by Stephanie Mansfield, a reporter for The Washington Post, discusses the weekend festivities that have sprung up around the tournament and refers to them as a time "less about sports than babes — hordes of them, gaggles of them, giggling and groping and making out with abandon." Elsewhere, it discusses the "image problem" of the LPGA and talk that it might move the tournament to "detach itself from lesbian spring break," as the weekend has become known.

Jim Herre, the golf editor at Golf Plus, said that the article was in keeping with other articles done from towns where tournaments take place. "At the British Open, we did a story on the town of St. Andrews," he said. "Our viewpoint was, if you have 20,000 like-minded anything gathering near any golf tournament, it would be of interest."

Uihlein said he was further aggravated by the response from Sports Illustrated's managing editor, Bill Colson, who, he said, "was condescending, and said, 'We think it's a news story.'"

Colson offered Uihlein the chance to respond in a column normally devoted to outside opinion, which he did. But Uihlein also insisted on "taking some steps to modify our advertising schedule."

"It remains to be seen whether this was a good marketing decision or not," Alan Klein, a spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation in New York, said of the decision by Titleist and Foot-Joy. "I would imagine there is a substantial market of lesbians that enjoy golf. If that's the case, it would be counterintuitive to pull advertising around an article like this."

Uihlein dismissed any suggestion that people might see his move as homophobic. "It really is a separate issue," he said. "This has to do with a major weekly publication and its policy of fairness as to how it's covering men's golf, women's golf and golf stories in general."

Titleist and Foot-Joy, a unit of American Brands, has a 70 percent share of the market for shoes and golf balls among professional women players, Uihlein said.

Alvaro Saralegui, Sports Illustrated's general manager, said the publication, which is owned by Time Warner, did not clear its articles with advertisers.

"The way we all believe it works is, you put out a great magazine, you get terrific readers and that will attract great advertisers," he said. The Golf Plus supplement is bound into 450,000 subscriber copies of Sports Illustrated sent to readers identified as "serious golfers," or those who play 26 rounds or more a year.

Ted Mathis/Agence France-Presse
Roberto Alomar of the Orioles hitting into a force play in the sixth inning against the Red Sox in Baltimore.

Error-Prone Dodgers Hand Marlins an Important Victory

The Associated Press

The Florida Marlins opened the season with high hopes only to see a five-game losing streak take a little of the luster off their high-priced lineup. But over the weekend they ran into another team trying to live up to great expectations, the Los Angeles Dodgers, and, helped by the Dodgers' mistakes, Florida swept the series.

"Expectations were high after a great spring," the Marlins' manager, Jim Leyland, said after Sunday night's 4-3 victory. "We don't want to say we were pressing, but if you don't hit, you don't win."

With the NL East-leading Atlanta Braves off to their best start this century, Florida has a lot of pressure to keep winning.

Los Angeles, which has lost six of seven, helped the Marlins by making two mental errors and one that could have been ruled an error.

With one out in the ninth and the score 3-3, Cliff Floyd hit a one-hopper off Darren Hall that went off the glove of the second baseman, Nelson Liriano, into right field. Floyd hustled to second and was given a double.

Luis Castillo walked and Edgar Renteria followed with a ground single that just eluded Liriano.

The Dodger rookie Wilton Guerrero was called out when he rounded second after a popout and forgot to retouch the base as he returned to first.

And the Dodgers third baseman, Todd Zeile, made a gaffe in the first. With runners on second and third and two outs, he grabbed Moises Alou's grounder and stepped on third, mistakenly thinking there was a force play. It cost the Dodgers.

"That was bad, costly, stupid, whatever you want to say," Zeile said. "It's not something any big leaguer should do, especially not an eight-year veteran."

Braves 2, Padres 0 Greg Maddux allowed just one hit in a game called by rain in the

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

bottom of the fifth, pitching to the minimum 15 batters in his 22d career shutout.

Visiting San Diego lost its fifth straight, and Wally Joyner, its first baseman, was placed on the 15-day disabled list after spraining his right ankle.

Atlanta set a team record with its 17th victory in April, and its 17-5 record is the best in franchise history after 22 games.

Mets 5, Expos 3 Rey Ordonez of New York hit a two-run single in the 10th off Lee Smith, who was making the 1,000th relief appearance of his career. Smith allowed his first two runs in 23 career appearances at Olympic Stadium.

Pirates 7, Cubs 0 Jason Schmidt held Chicago hitless until the sixth inning, and Kevin Elster and Jose Guillen homered for visiting Pittsburgh. Elster also added a two-run double.

Giants 3, Astros 2 Rod Beck, the San Francisco relief pitcher, picked up his major league-leading 11th save after Damon Berryhill broke a seventh-inning tie with a run scoring single. Barry Bonds and Glenallen Hill homered for the visiting Giants, who have won 12 of 14.

Cardinals 6, Rockies 2 Donovan Osborne won for the first time this season as St. Louis stopped Colorado's team-record eight-game road winning streak.

• Philadelphia's game in Cincinnati was postponed because of rain.

In the American League:

Mariners 2, Blue Jays 1 Randy Johnson looked like his old, dominating self, striking out nine in eight innings as Seattle won in Toronto.

Johnson won his 15th straight regular-season decision, a streak that started in 1995 and continued last year although his season was interrupted by back trouble.

The AL record for consecutive victories is 17, set by Cleveland's Johnny Allen (1936-37) and matched by Baltimore's Dave McNally (1968-69). Carl Hubbell set the major league mark of 24 with the New York Giants (1936-37).

Johnson gave up six hits, and his fastball was clocked at 97 miles an hour late in the game.

Red Sox 13, Orioles 7 Bill Haselman, who previously took his most memorable swings at Camden Yards with his fists, hit a home run and three doubles as Boston beat Baltimore.

Haselman's third double keyed a three-run rally in the seventh that put the Red Sox ahead, 8-6. He hit a two-run homer in the eighth, and reliever Armando Benitez was ejected after throwing his next pitch near Jeff Frye's head.

Haselman, who drove in four runs, made a scene at Baltimore in 1993 when he charged the mound after being hit by a pitch from Mike Mussina.

Mo Vaughn, Tim Naehring, Troy O'Leary and Wil Cordero also homered for the Red Sox. Eric Davis homered twice and Cal Ripken hit a three-run shot for the Orioles.

Yankees 7, White Sox 1 Andy Pettitte, sent home from Yankee Stadium a day earlier because he had a high temperature, overcame his illness to pitch New York past Chicago.

Pettitte (5-0) joined Mel Stottlemyre, his current coach, as the only Yankee pitchers to win five games in April. He held the Sox to four hits in 7⅔ innings.

Paul O'Neill hit a three-run double and a solo homer for New York. Frank Thomas homered for Chicago, and Albert Belle had two doubles.

Brewers 6, Indians 5 Milwaukee caught Cleveland in the late innings for the second straight day at County Stadium, winning on Dave Nilsson's run-scoring single with one out in the bottom of the ninth. The Brewers scored twice in the eighth to tie the game, 5-5.

Angels 6, Tigers 5 Tony Clark, Travis Fryman and Brian Hunter all homered for Detroit in the sixth inning, but Anaheim won at home on Jim Edmonds's RBI single with two outs in the ninth.

Royals 7, Athletics 1 Tim Belcher nearly notched his 18th career shutout, pitching a six-hitter as Kansas City beat Oakland. He limited the A's to four singles until the ninth inning, when Jose Canseco doubled with one out and scored on Matt Stairs's single with two outs.

Rangers 7, Twins 3 Warren Newson broke loose with a homer, a double and a single as Texas completed its first sweep at the Metrodome since May 1995.

SPORTS

Canada Frustrated Again As Goal Drought Persists

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Striker Alex Bunbury started to celebrate after he turned on Garret Kusch's pass and blasted it at the open Jamaican goal. He should have known better.

Goalkeeper Aaron Lawrence somehow got a hand on the 80th minute shot and tipped it off the crossbar to preserve

World Cup Soccer

a 0-0 draw Sunday and extend Canada's goalless drought to four World Cup qualifying games.

"I was celebrating," said Bunbury. "I was ready to go to the bench and hug my teammates and do a lap around the field. You name it."

Jamaica also had a chance to win when Altimon Butler's close-in shot was deflected across the goalmouth by goalkeeper Paul Dolan.

AFRICA Tunisia moved within a point of becoming the first nation to qualify for France — other than defending champion Brazil and host France.

Tunisia beat Liberia, 2-0, in Tunis on Sunday. The Tunisians have won all four of their games, and only Egypt, with six points from four games, can catch them.

A penalty by Adel Sellimi and a goal by Khaled Badra put Tunisia six points clear at the top of group two and needing just one point from one of its last two matches to secure a place in France.

Tunisia's victory ended the hopes of Liberia's large band of European-based professionals, led by George Weah, and pushed favorite Egypt to the brink of elimination.

Egypt won, 3-2, over Namibia in Windhoek on Saturday, after a last-minute goal by defender Mehdat Abdelhadi.

Nigeria went three points clear in group one with a 2-1 victory over Burkina Faso in Ouagadougou. Home goalkeeper Ibrahim Diarra let an innocuous back pass from defender Magaoule Diabate roll through his legs and into his goal in the 40th minute.

Emmanuel Ammike outsprinted the Burkinabe defense for the second goal before Mamadou Zongo scored a late goal for the home team.

Nigeria's closest rival, Guinea, lost in Nairobi where a penalty by defender Musa Otieno gave Kenya a 1-0 victory.

Bassir Sahleddine's 40th minute goal gave Morocco a 1-0 victory in Sierra Leone, and it leads Ghana by one point in group five. Ghana won its first match after three successive draws by beating Gabon, 3-0, in Kumasi, with two second-half goals from Italian-based defender Mohamed Gargo.

Morocco could go four points clear later this week if FIFA awards it the points from its abandoned match against Gabon earlier in the month. Fans invaded the pitch in Libreville with Morocco leading, 4-0.

South Africa gained a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Zaire in Lome, Togo, to go on top of group three with Congo, which lost, 3-0, in Zambia. Striker Phil Masinga scored a 71st-minute winner for South Africa in the match, which was moved from Kinshasa because of the civil war in the country.

Late goals from Bernard Tchoutang and Patrick Mboma against Togo put Cameroon top of group four, but Angola's 0-0 draw in Zimbabwe meant it could still finish ahead of the Indomitable Lions.

ASIA In Asia's lone qualifier, Cambodia and Indonesia drew, 1-1, in Phnom Penh. The Cambodians scored their first goal in World Cup soccer qualifying. *(AP, Reuters)*

Cesar Rangel/The Associated Press

Diego Maradona, left, trying to outrun Laurent Blanc.

Overweight Maradona Shines

Reuters

BARCELONA — Diego Maradona, overweight but still skillful, played for 60 minutes as his Rest of the World XI came back from 2-0 down to beat Europe, 4-3, in a charity game Sunday.

Only 2,000 fans came to Barcelona's Olympic stadium where the European team included Eric Cantona and Hristo Stoichkov. Rene Higuita played for the World team.

The game was played on behalf of the Association of International Professional Footballers after Spanish soccer authorities objected to the idea of raising funds for Jean-Marc Bosman, the player whose case brought down barriers to players' movement within the European Union.

Dynamic Duo Powers Ducks

Kariya and Selanne Help Anaheim Force Game 7

The Associated Press

Teemu Selanne and Paul Kariya again provided most of Anaheim's offense in the Ducks' 3-2 overtime victory over the Phoenix Coyotes.

The two players were second and third in scoring the NHL this season — Selanne with 109 points and Kariya with 99. On Sunday night, Kariya scored the first and final goals and Selanne assisted on

NHL Playoffs

the winner. The first-round series is tied, 3-3, with Game 7 to be played Tuesday night at The Pond, where the Ducks went unbeaten for 16 games until losing to Phoenix last week.

Selanne and Kariya are linemates, close friends and by far the biggest offensive threats on their team. Selanne had 51 goals this season and Kariya had 44, while the next-highest Ducks scorer had 19.

For the game winner, which came 7½ minutes into overtime on Sunday, Selanne and Kariya used a designed play. Kariya was already streaking down the left wing when Selanne flipped the puck high into the air. The puck bounced, and a Phoenix defenseman, Gerald Diduck, tried without success to knock it away. Kariya got it on his stick and unleashed a shot that beat the Phoenix goalie, Nikolai Khabibulin, to the upper right corner

"We practice that all the time," Selanne said, adding that "there's always some luck involved."

Kariya and Brian Bellows had given Anaheim a 2-0 lead in the second period, but the Coyotes tied it on goals in the third by Darrin Shannon and Keith Tkachuk. "We should have had it in regulation, but we fought back, regained our composure and broke the game open," Kariya said.

The Coyotes will probably be without their star center, Jeremy Roenick, for the deciding game. He injured his knee midway through the second period.

Sabres 3, Senators 0 In Kanata, Ontario, Buffalo's backup goalie, Steve Shields, recorded his first NHL shutout as the Sabres forced a seventh game in their playoff series, to be played in Buffalo Tuesday.

Shields, who entered the series in the third game when Dominik Hasek sprained his knee, made his third straight start and stopped 31 shots.

Brian Holzinger gave Buffalo a 1-0 lead in the first period, Alexei Zhitnik added a goal in the second, and Jason Dawe finished the scoring in the third.

The Senators outshot the Sabres, 31-21, before a noisy crowd of 18,500, but home ice has not been an advantage in this series. Each team has won twice in the opposing rink.

"It would have been nice to win here, but Game 7 sounds awfully exciting," said the Senators' captain, Randy Cunneyworth, who had six shots on goal.

Red Wings 3, Blues 1 Detroit wrapped up its first-round playoff series in six games, getting power-play goals from Viacheslav Kozlov and Brendan Shanahan.

The Red Wings will continue their quest for their first Stanley Cup since 1955. The Blues haven't made it past the second round since 1986.

With 52.8 seconds left in the second period, the Blues' Pierre Turgeon grabbed a rebound and slid it into the open left side of the net. But his left skate was in the crease, and the puck had just slid outside the crease.

So instead of the game being tied at 2-2, the referee, Kerry Fraser, waved off the goal, and the visiting Red Wings were headed for victory.

Late goals "really have a way of changing momentum," said Joel Quenneville, the St. Louis coach. "It's a crazy rule, but I guess it was the right call the way the rule was written."

The crease rule is designed to protect the goalie. In this case, Mike Vernon was nowhere close when Turgeon barely violated his space. "I thought it was a goal," Vernon said. "It was very unfortunate for them that it was disallowed."

Stars 3, Oilers 2 In Edmonton, Alberta, Mike Modano scored at 14:42 of the third period to lift Dallas over Edmonton and force a seventh game of their NHL Western Conference playoff series.

With each team playing a man short, Modano took the puck from an Oilers' defenseman, Luke Richardson, in the Edmonton zone. Modano tore up the middle of the ice and ripped a shot that deflected off the stick of the Oilers' center, Doug Weight, and past Curtis Joseph for his fourth goal of the series.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Major League Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	14	7	.667	—
Boston	12	11	.522	3
New York	12	12	.500	3½
Toronto	10	11	.476	4
Detroit	10	15	.400	6
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Milwaukee	10	10	.500	—
Cleveland	11	12	.478	½
Kansas City	10	11	.476	½
Minnesota	11	13	.458	1
Chicago	7	16	.304	4½
WEST DIVISION				
Seattle	15	9	.625	—
Texas	13	8	.619	½
Oakland	12	12	.500	3
Anaheim	11	11	.500	3

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	17	5	.773	—
Florida	13	9	.591	4
Montreal	11	10	.524	5½
New York	9	14	.391	8½
Philadelphia	7	14	.333	9½
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Houston	14	9	.609	—
Pittsburgh	11	11	.500	3½
St. Louis	8	14	.364	5½
Cincinnati	7	15	.318	6½
Chicago	4	18	.182	9½
WEST DIVISION				
San Francisco	16	5	.762	—
Colorado	15	6	.714	1
Los Angeles	11	10	.524	5
San Diego	9	12	.429	7

SUNDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Seattle	101	000	000	2	6	1
Toronto	100	000	000	1	7	0

Ra.Johnson, Charlton (9) and Da.Wilson; Person, Crabtree (8), Spoljaric (8) and Tinsley (9). W—Ra.Johnson, 3-0. L—Person, 0-1. HR—Seattle, A. Rodriguez (4).

Chicago	000	100	000	1	4	1
New York	013	110	03x	7	9	0

Drabek, D. Darwin (4), T. Castillo (6), Levine (8), R. Hernandez (8) and Karkovice; Pettitte, Nelson (8) and Girardi. W—Pettitte, 5-0. L—Drabek, 1-3. HRs—Chicago, Thomas (2). New York, O'Neill (4).

Texas	020	000	050	7	11	0
Minnesota	000	000	300	3	7	0

Bartlett, Vosberg (7), Patterson (7), Gunderson (8), X. Hernandez (9) and I. Rodriguez; Radka, Guardado (8), Nauhy (8), Aguilera (8), Swindell (9) and G. Myers. W—Patterson, 2-1. L—Nauhy, 1-1. HR—Texas, Newson (1).

Boston	027	200	347	12	19	0
Baltimore	201	030	001	7	14	0

Avery, B. Henry (6), Garces (8), Slocumb (9) and Hosekins; Mussina, Rhodes (7), A. Benitez (7), Bostic (8) and Hoiles. W—B. Henry, 1-0. L—Rhodes, 2-1. HRs—Boston, Cordero (5), Hosekins (2), O'Leary (3), Mewhinney (6), M. Vaughn (6). Baltimore, Clipkan (5), E. Davis 2 (5).

Cleveland	201	000	010	5	8	0
Milwaukee	000	020	121	6	13	0

Ogea, Plunk (8), Assenmacher (9) and Borders; D'Amico, Florie (7), Do.Jones (9) and Levis. W—Do.Jones, 2-0. L—Plunk, 0-2. HRs—Cleveland, Borders (2), Thome (5).

Kansas City	210	100	003	7	13	0
Oakland	000	000	001	1	6	1

Belcher and Mackanin; Mohler, Wengert (7), Acre (7), Groom (8), Taylor (9) and Mayne, Molina (9). W—Belcher, 2-3. L—Mohler, 0-3.

Detroit	000	014	000	5	10	0
Anaheim	003	001	011	6	11	0

Blair, Bautista (3), J. Cummings (7), To.Jones (8), M. Myers (9) and Casanova; Watson, P. Harris (6), Hasegawa (8), Holtz (9), James (9) and Leyritz. W—James, 2-2. L—M. Myers, 0-2. HRs—Detroit, To.Clark (8), Fryman (6), B. L.Hunter (2), Trammell (4).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

San Diego	000	00—0	1	6		
Atlanta	002	0x—2	7	0		

(5 innings, ended by rain) Valenzuela and C. Hernandez; G.Maddux and Edd.Perez. W—G. Maddux, 3-1. L—Valenzuela, 1-3.

New York	100	200	000	3—5	12	0
Montreal	200	100	000	0—3	9	0

(10 innings) Reyness, R. Jordan (6), McMichael (7), Ja.Franco (10) and Hundley; Jodon, Telford (4), D. Veres (7), Urbina (8), Dozi (9), L.Smith (10) and Widger. W—McMichael, 1-2. L—L. Smith, 0-1. Sv—Ja.Franco (6). HR—Montreal, R. White (4).

Colorado	100	000	001	2	9	1
St. Louis	050	000	10x	6	9	0

M.Thompson, Burke (2), McCurry (7) and Manwaring; Osborne, T.J.Mathews (8), Honeycutt (9) and Pagnozzi. W—Osborne, 1-2. L—M. Thompson, 3-1.

Pittsburgh	000	100	200	7	10	1
Chicago	000	000	000	0	5	0

Schmidt, Rincon (7), Ericks (9) and Oelkers; Telemaco, Patterson (7), R. Tatis (8), Wendell (8) and Servais. W—Schmidt, 1-1. L—Telemaco, 0-1. HRs—Pittsburgh, J. Guillen (2), Elster (4).

San Francisco	200	000	100	3	7	2
Houston	110	000	000	2	7	1

O.Fernandez, Tavarez (7), D. Henry (8), Beck (9) and Berryhill; Jensen (7), Reynolds, Martin (8), Hudek (9) and Ausmus. W—O. Fernandez, 3-1. L—Reynolds, 3-2. Sv—Beck (11). HRs—S. Francisco, Bonds (3), G. Hill (3). Los Angeles

Los Angeles	010	010	010	3	9	0
Florida	100	020	001	4	7	0

Astacio, Candiotti (7), Hall (9) and Piazza; Rapp, Helling (6), Hutton (8) and C. Johnson. W—Hutton, 2-1. L—Hall, 0-1. HRs—Los Angeles, Piazza (3), Mondesi (6).

BASKETBALL

NBA Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(BEST-OF-SEVEN)
SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Orlando	18	13	27	29— 87
Miami	29	25	24	24—104

O: P.Hardaway 10-20 5-8 26, Strong 6-10 6-7 18; M: T.Hardaway 6-16 6-7 20, Brown 6-8 5-5 17, Mourning 5-8 7-11 17. Rebounds—Orlando 39 (Strong 16), Miami 45 (Mourning 9). Assists—Orlando 15 (Shaw 4), Miami 25 (Hardaway 11).

(Miami leads series 2-0)

Portland	26	25	18	24—	93
L.A. Lakers	33	16	29	29—	107

P: Wallace 9-14 2-3 20, Rider 6-14 4-4 18, Anderson 7-15 3-3 18; L.A. Lakers S.O'Neal 11-21 8-14 30, Jones 7-7 3-4 19. Rebounds—Portland 37 (C.Robinson 10), Los Angeles 41 (Jones 7). Assists—Portland 24 (Anderson 7), Los Angeles 26 (Van Exel 9).

(L.A. Lakers lead series 2-0)

Washington	29	35	15	24—	104
Chicago	29	29	28	22—	108

W: Chaney 10-18 6-6 26, Murray 6-14 10-11 22; C: Jordan 22-35 10-10 55, Pippen 4-18 5-6 14. Rebounds—Washington 48 (Webber 12), Chicago 45 (Pippen 9). Assists—Washington 18 (Strickland 8), Chicago 22 (Longley 6).

(Chicago leads series 2-0)

Detroit	26	19	19	29—	93
Atlanta	28	20	25	15—	88

D: Hill 7-19 11-13 25, Long 4-7 9-9 17; A: Smith 10-19 1-3 22, Loehner 8-13 2-2 18. Rebounds—Detroit 42 (Thorpe 8), Atlanta 41 (Blaylock 9). Assists—Detroit 11 (Hill 3), Atlanta 18 (Blaylock 7).

(series tied 1-1)

Phoenix	18	19	26	15—	78
Seattle	35	21	29	37—	122

P: Chapman 6-12 4-4 18, Manning 3-6 8-8 14; S: Kemp 8-12 6-9 22, Payton 10-24 2-3 23. Rebounds—Phoenix 58 (Person 10), Seattle 60 (Kemp 15). Assists—Phoenix 16 (Kidd 8), Seattle 24 (Payton 6).

(series tied 1-1)

ICE HOCKEY

NHL Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(BEST-OF-SEVEN)
SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Detroit	1	1	1—3
St. Louis	1	0	0—1

First Period: S.L.-Hull 2, 2, D-Kozlov 2 (Fedorov, Larionov) (pp). Second Period: D-Shanahan 3 (Sandstrom, L.Murphy) (pp). Third Period: D-Maltby 1 (McCarthy). Shots on goal: D- 6-14-10—30. S.L.- 5-6-14—25. Goalies: D-Vernon. S.L.-Futr.

(Detroit wins series 4-2)

Dallas	1	1	1—3
Edmonton	1	1	0—2

First Period: D-Lehtinen 2 (Gilchrist, Moog) 2, E-Grier 3 (Buchberger, Lindgren) Second Period: D-Bassen 2 (Verbeek, Ludwig) 4, E-Carkwood 2 (Lindgren) Third Period: D-Modano 4 (Lehtinen, Hatcher) Shots on goal: D- 10-11-12—41. E- 7-15-13—35. Goalies: D-Moog. E-Joseph.

(series tied 3-3)

Anaheim	0	2	0	1—3
Phoenix	0	0	2	0—2

First Period: None. Second Period: A-Kariya 4 (Kurri, Mironov) (pp). 2. A-Bellows 1 (Mironov) Third Period: Phoenix, Shannon 3 (Ronning, Gartner) 4, Phoenix, Tkachuk 6 (Janney, Quint) (pp). Overtime: 5, A-Kariya 5 (Selanne, Ruccchin) Shots on goal: A- 11-16-5-7—39. Phoenix 8-6-5-2—21. Goalies: A-Hebert. Phoenix, Khabibulin.

(series tied 3-3)

World Championship

IN HELSINKI, FINLAND, POOL A

Czech Republic 2 Finland 1
Germany 1, Russia 5

STANDINGS: Czech Republic 4 points; Russia 3; Finland 2; Slovakia 1; Germany 0; France 0.

IN TURKU, FINLAND, POOL B

Sweden 7 Canada 2
Italy 5, Latvia 4

STANDINGS: Sweden 4 points; Canada 2; U.S. 2; Italy 2; Norway 0; Latvia 0.

CRICKET

PAKISTAN TOUR
2ND TEST, 3D DAY
SRI LANKA VS. PAKISTAN
MONDAY, IN COLOMBO

Sri Lanka: 331 and 102 without loss
Pakistan: 292.

INDIA TOUR
2ND 1-DAY INTERNATIONAL
WEST INDIES VS. INDIA
SUNDAY, IN PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

West Indies: 121 all out (43.5 overs)
India: 116-0 (23.1)

India won on faster scoring rate in the rain-hit match.

Teams level 1-1 in four-match series.

CYCLING

Amstel Gold Race

SATURDAY, IN MAASTRICHT, NETHERLANDS

1. Bjarne Rijs, Denmark, Deutsche Telekom, 258-km in 6 hours 11 minutes 19 seconds
2. Andrea Tafi, Italy, Mapei at 46 seconds
3. Beat Zberg, Switz., Mercatone Uno s.t.
4. Laurent Roux, France, TVM s.t.
5. Mauro Gianetti, Swiss, Fran des Jeux s.t.
6. Michele Bartoli, Italy, MG-Technogym 47
7. Laurent Jalabert, France, ONCE 48
8. Andrei Tchmil, Ukraine, Lotto 1:08
9. Rolf Aldag, Germ., Deutsche Telekom s.t.
10. Rolf Sorensen, Denmark, Rabobank s.t.

WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1. Bartoli 196 points; 2. Sorensen 180; 3. Jalabert 107; 4. Tchmil 104; 5. Riis 100; 6. Frederic Guesdon, France, Fran des Jeux 100; 7. Erik Zabel, Germany, Deutsche Telekom 100; 8. Davide Casarotto, Italy, Saigno 98; 9. Johan Museeuw, Belgium, Mapei 95; 10. Frederic Moncassin, France, Gan 94.

GOLF

Kirin Open

Final scores Sunday of the $784,000 Kirin Open on the 7,052-yard, par-72 Ibaraki Golf Club West Course in Tsukuba, Japan:

Kim Jong-duk, S.Korea	69-73-68-68—278
Jet Ozaki, Japan	70-73-71-65—279
Brian Watts, U.S.	69-70-71-69—279
H. Miyase, Japan	70-71-68-70—279
S. Maruyama, Japan	69-68-67-75—279
Rick Todd, Canada	71-72-67-70—280
Edward Fryatt, Eng.	68-71-71-70—280
C. Franco, Paraguay	71-68-69-72—280
H. Tanaka, Japan	70-69-69-72—280
Zaw Moe, Burma	67-69-69-75—280

Greensboro Classic

Final scores Sunday of the $1.8 million Greater Greensboro Chrysler Classic on the 7,063-yard (6,455-meter), par-72 Forest Oaks Country Club course in Greensboro, North Carolina (x-won on first hole of sudden-death playoff):

x-F. Nobilo, New Zeal.	69-69-69-67—274
Brad Faxon, U.S.	67-70-65-72—274
Kirk Triplett, U.S.	67-69-69-70—275
Billy Andrade, U.S.	72-68-67-69—276
Robert Damron, U.S.	66-72-67-71—276
Davis Love III, U.S.	72-69-69-67—277
Mike Standly, U.S.	68-68-71-71—278
Tom Kite, U.S.	67-68-67-76—278
Mark O'Meara, U.S.	72-67-73-67—279
Phil Mickelson, U.S.	71-68-70-70—279
Rocco Mediate, U.S.	72-66-69-72—279
Ernie Els, South Africa	69-69-67-74—279

SOCCER

WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS
CONCACAF ZONE

Canada 0, Jamaica 0

STANDINGS: Mexico 8 points; United States 5; Costa Rica 4; Jamaica 2, Canada 2; El Salvador 1.

Top three teams qualify

ASIA
GROUP 5

STANDINGS: Indonesia 5 points; Yemen 4; Cambodia 1; Uzbekistan 0

GROUP 7

STANDINGS: Kuwait 3 points; Lebanon 1; Singapore 1.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

Tampa Bay 3, Kansas City 2, SO (4-3)

STANDINGS: Eastern Conference: D.C. Washington 10 points; Tampa Bay 10; New England 7; NY-NJ 6, Columbus 5. **Western Conference:** Kansas City 7; Dallas 7; Colorado 6; San Jose 5; Los Angeles 3.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRIENDLY

US 2, France 1

TENNIS

U.S. CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIPS
SUNDAY, LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA
FINAL

Michael Chang, 1, U.S. def. Grant Stafford, South Africa, 4-6, 6-2, 6-1.

ATP RANKINGS

1. Pete Sampras, U.S., 5,118 points; 2. Michael Chang, U.S., 3,716; 3. Thomas Muster, Austria, 3,309; 4. Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Russia, 3,147; 5. Richard Krajicek, Netherlands, 2,885; 6. Goran Ivanisevic, Croatia, 2,710; 7. Carlos Moya, Spain, 2,343; 8. Marcelo Rios, Chile, 2,240; 9. Thomas Enqvist, Sweden, 2,176; 10. Wayne Ferreira, South Africa, 1,935; 11. Albert Costa, Spain, 1,855; 12. Boris Becker, Germany, 1,651; 13. Alex Corretja, Spain, 1,792; 14. Todd Martin, U.S., 1,673; 15. Felix Mantilla, Spain, 1,640.

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
NATIONAL LEAGUE

ST. LOUIS—Designated C Danny Sheaffer for assignment.

FOOTBALL

DALLAS—Signed CB Kevin Mathis, RB Beau Morgan, RB Charles Talley, RB Sean Simms, RB Jurvis Perry, OL Todd Stewart, DE Brett Williams, and DB Montrell Williams.

INDIANAPOLIS—Signed RB Alex Smith, DB Eric Allen, C Matt Cravens, WR Juan Daniels, TE Darren Drexler, P Mark Gogliano, DL Gary Haynes, C Jason Johnson, OL Brannon Kidd, WR Tony Lanier, S Harold Lusk, DB Tim McTyer, OL Owen Neil, LB Dee Osborne, DL Booker Pickett, RB Malcolm Thomas, DL Lorenzo West, RB Abu Wilson.

NEW YORK JETS—Waived LB Ken Thomas. Signed G Patrick Augafa, TE Mark Bolach, S Duane Butler, WR-KR Joe Douglass, WR-QB Todd Doxzon, RB Robert Farmer, CB Anthony Fogle, DE Terry Greene, LB Craig Guest, K John Hall, T Jay Hagood, LB Tyrone Hines, WR-KR Alonzo Johnson, LB Eric Johnson, FB Ezra Johnson, WR Jay Jones, OL Casey Jones, LB Ken Thomas and DB Anthony Walker.

PHILADELPHIA—Re-signed S James Fuller to 1-year contract and signed OT James Butler.

SAN FRANCISCO—Signed OL Chris Dalman to 3-year contract.

SEATTLE—Signed QB Jim Arellanes, WR Andre Cooper, WR Robert Wilson, TE Jamal Clark, G J Ina, G Larry Moore, C David Kempfert, DT Myron Elzy, DE Nick Ginanacakos, CB Alonzo Hampton, LB LeVance McQueen and LB Tyrell Peters.

TAMPA BAY—Released G Joel Crisman.

WASHINGTON—Signed CB Darrell Green to 5-year contract.

CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

HAMILTON—Signed LB Melvin Aldridge, LB Timm Hall and LB Ahmani Johnson.

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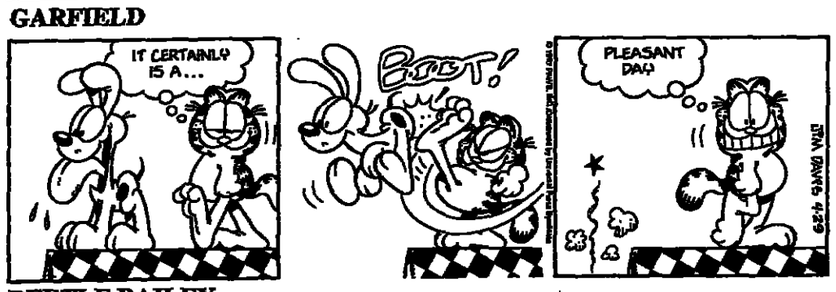
DENNIS THE MENACE

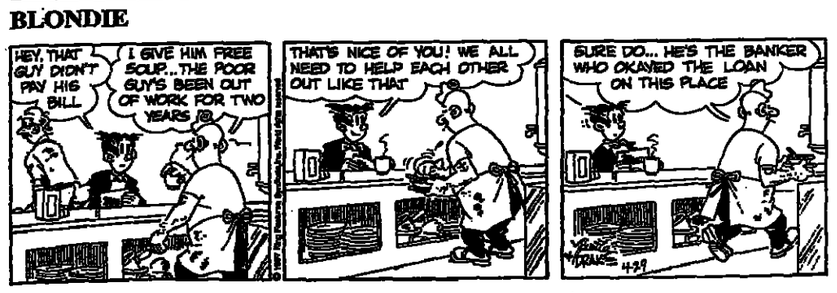
PEANUTS

GARFIELD



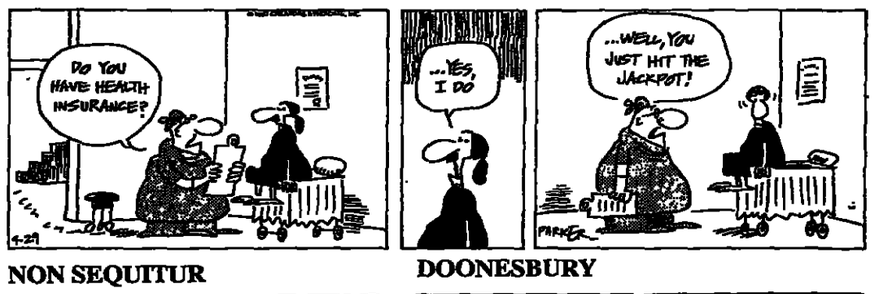
BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE



CALVIN AND HOBBES

WIZARD of ID



NON SEQUITUR

DOONESBURY

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

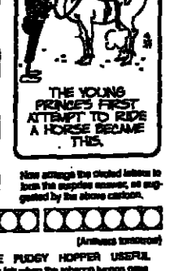
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FERAT

LUXTE

BLOMAG

SNUFIO



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A _____ _____ (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FUDGE FUDGY HOPPER USEFUL
Answer: How he felt when the tobacco tycoon gave him a cigar — PUFFED UP

ART BUCHWALD

Coming to Term

WASHINGTON — The voice on the other end of the phone sounded desperate. The person said that I didn't know him, but he was a student and needed help. His assignment was to write a term paper on Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, and the deadline was Thursday.

Buchwald

I said, "I confess I don't know too much about Alan Greenspan, except that he just got married and the stock market went crazy. Why are you calling me at this late date?"

"I have to hand in a finished paper or I don't graduate. I was going to write it during spring break, but only a fool would work on a term paper during spring break. All the kids I know are writing theirs this week, so I am not the only one."

□

"I don't understand college students. They always wait until the very last moment before doing their papers."

"It wouldn't make sense to try to write them earlier. It's the pressure that makes you do it."

"Maybe so," I said, "but why would you call me to give you information on Alan Greenspan?"

□

"My mother suggested your name. She said that since you live in Washington you probably have dinner with him every night. For descriptive purposes, can you tell me if Greenspan is short or tall?"

"He's not very tall."

"How does he decide what the interest rate will be?"

"I think that he used to do it on the bus during his morning commute, but now that he's married, his wife does it for him."

"That's good. There's no way my professor can check that out."

I asked, "Are you working on any other term papers this week?"

"Pretty much all of them. I've got to write one on sheep cloning, one on the space program and another one about Rasputin's love affair with the czar's wife. So I can't give you too much of my time."

"I'm glad to hear that," I said. "I don't have to write a term paper, but there are other things I have to write."

□

"My mother says that if I don't get the Greenspan paper finished she will never help me with my homework again."

"That doesn't sound like a mother who cares about her son."

"O.K. One more question if that's all right with you. When Greenspan raises the interest rates, does he ask for divine guidance?"

"Yes, he does, but only after the stock market closes."

A T-Bird for a Song?

The Associated Press

TARRYTOWN, New York — The high bidder for Liberace's 1956 Thunderbird got a bargain at a vintage car auction. The unidentified collector's winning bid of $28,750 was lower than Christie's $30,000 to $50,000 estimate for the sporty white car with red leather seats and red carpeting. It was sold along with its original Nevada title, signed by Liberace.

Out and Open: A Budding Star Dares Hollywood

By Bernard Weinraub
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — The decision by Anne Heche, a fast-rising 27-year-old actress and potential movie star, to reveal that she is in a lesbian relationship with the comedian Ellen DeGeneres has confronted Hollywood with a highly delicate problem: how to deal with a gay actress whose career has been built on playing heterosexual roles.

Never before have movie executives and directors, who pride themselves on their political liberalism (and some of whom are themselves gay), been forced to cope with an issue in which their tolerance of others' sex lives collides with their desire to take as few risks as possible in making movies that cost $50 million or more.

"There has not been a case in time where somebody has been this public about having a lesbian affair and asking us — and the public — to accept them as a female romantic lead," one of Hollywood's most powerful agents, who knows Heche, said. The agent, who spoke on condition of anonymity, added, "It's an important test case."

Heche, who is co-starring as the romantic lead opposite Tommy Lee Jones in "Volcano," the No. 1 film this weekend in the United States, appeared with DeGeneres, the star of the ABC-TV comedy "Ellen," at the White House Correspondents Dinner on Saturday night in Washington, which was attended by President Clinton. The two sat hand-in-hand and posed for photographers.

People magazine, in its May 5 issue, will quote Heche as saying, "Ellen and I are very much in a relationship, and we are looking forward to a long future together." And Heche joined DeGeneres in a taping of the Oprah Winfrey show.

DeGeneres herself has come out as a lesbian in recent weeks, and, in an hourlong episode on Wednesday night, so will her character in her television series. This will be a network first: a lesbian character in a lead role on prime-time television. Several sponsors have turned away from the show, and the ABC affiliate in Birmingham, Alabama, said it would not show the episode.

While the "Ellen" show has generated intense nationwide publicity, it was the decision by Heche to reveal her affair with DeGeneres that has struck Hollywood hard.

In the past, and even now, Hollywood stars who were homosexual have gone to great lengths to hide it from the public. One reason is that studios assume that the movie-going public would not accept a gay actor in a heterosexual role.

But Joel Schumacher, one of Hollywood's most successful directors ("Batman Returns," "A Time to Kill"), pointed out that audiences fully accept heterosexual actors playing gay roles. "We accept Robin Williams playing a gay man in 'Bird Cage,' " he said. "Tom Hanks played a man dying of AIDS who kissed Antonio Banderas on the lips. Hanks won an Academy Award, and it didn't hurt Banderas's career."

Similarly, he pointed out, Sharon Stone played a bisexual in "Basic Instinct," which made her a star, and William Hurt won an Academy Award for playing a flamboyant drag queen in "Kiss of the Spider Woman."

"It comes down to talent, it's what the arts should be about," said Schumacher. Asked whether he would cast Heche as a romantic lead opposite a man, Schumacher replied, "It wouldn't stop me for a minute."

But studio executives and producers are not so sure. Before Heche revealed her relationship with DeGeneres — the two women met at a party sponsored by the magazine Vanity Fair at Morton's restaurant in West Hollywood on the night of the Academy Awards — Heche was cast opposite Harrison Ford in a big romantic comedy, "Six Days, Seven Nights," directed by Ivan Reitman. Ford, one of Hollywood's top stars, approved her casting. The film will be made by Caravan Pictures for Walt Disney Co.

Susan Biddle/The Washington Post
The comedian Ellen DeGeneres, left, and the actress Anne Heche.

Several executives at these companies are known to be perplexed and dismayed by the publicity involving Heche. It is highly improbable that Heche will lose her role in the film. But the question Heche and her agents face is whether studios will cast her in future romantic roles or turn to other actresses of similar talent and beauty.

Heche may have had deeply personal reasons for making her sexuality public, even at the risk of damaging her career. She grew up in a strict fundamentalist Christian home in Ohio where her father, Donald, was a minister and church organist. He died of AIDS at the age of 43, leaving the family in poverty. Various published articles said that Donald Heche had lived a gay double life. Heche has told friends that being honest about herself is more important than protecting her career.

Even before she revealed her affair with DeGeneres, Heche called attention to herself by firing her longtime agent, Doug Robinson, of the Endeavor Agency, and her managers, Keith Addis and Nick Wechsler. These three had been largely responsible for her ascending career. In the last two years she played the romantic lead in "Walking and Talking"; a top role in "The Juror," in which her character was seduced and killed by Alec Baldwin's, and Johnny Depp's wife in "Donnie Brasco." She is starring opposite Dustin Hoffman and Robert De Niro in "Wag the Dog" by David Mamet, directed by Barry Levinson.

People close to Heche said Robinson, Addis and Wechsler told her they supported her but asked her to understand the ramifications of publicly proclaiming her lesbianism. Heche fired them and hired DeGeneres's manager and agents at the Creative Artists Agency.

Pat Kingsley, the doyenne of Hollywood press agents who handles publicity for some of the town's biggest stars, said that Heche's decision was "entirely new territory." Kingsley, who represents DeGeneres, said that the comedian came to her several months ago to inform her that the "Ellen" character would be written as a lesbian.

"What do you think of the repercussions?" DeGeneres asked Kingsley.

Kingsley said she replied: "I'll tell you I don't know. It's not been done before."

In recent years several television actors, like Dan Butler, who plays a macho sportscaster in "Frasier," and Amanda Bearse, who plays a married neighbor in "Married ... With Children," have disclosed that they were gay, apparently without any repercussions.

But the two are character actors and not potential movie stars.

Various singers, like Elton John, k.d. lang and Melissa Etheridge, have also announced they were gay, without damaging their careers.

Jeffrey Friedman, a creator of the acclaimed documentary, "The Celluloid Closet," about Hollywood's depiction of homosexuals, said about Heche: "It seems especially courageous of her because there's so much at stake for her now. She's not an established movie star and not a nobody. She's somebody for whom the stakes are really high."

The Associated Press
SINKING FUNDS — A representation used in the filming of the epic "Titanic." The film's budget, jointly bankrolled by Paramount Pictures and 20th Century Fox, has risen from an initially projected $110 million to more than $200 million.

PEOPLE

THE talk-show host **Larry King** has given his tall blonde "infomercial goddess," **Shawn Southwick**, a "friendship ring." It's not the kind you got in junior high; this one is a diamond band with a ruby in the center. "We are committed," said King, grabbing Southwick around the waist at a party in a Washington restaurant. And they're talking marriage, she allowed. Among the 100 guests who dropped by to celebrate the publication of "Daddy Day, Daughter Day," which King wrote with his daughter, **Chaia**, was ex-wife **Alene King**, Chaia's mother. "I'm number two and also number four," she helpfully explained. By that reckoning, Southwick would be No. 7.

□

A hairstylist is suing **Mickey Rourke** for $100,000, claiming that the actor's bodyguard beat him up in a Beverly Hills nightclub for no reason. **Jeff Brown** said he was dancing with his wife at the Beverly Club in April last year when the bodyguard, named **Santa Fe**, walked by and accidentally bumped Brown. "Santa Fe, a professional boxer, then turned as if to walk away and suddenly pivoted and sucker-punched the unsuspecting Jeff about the face and head, knocking Jeff to the ground," the lawsuit said. Brown says Rourke later approached him and acknowledged that Santa Fe was a bodyguard and promised to take care of Brown. Brown says he suffered headaches, blurred vision and "severe emotional pain and humiliation."

□

Luke Perry says it's time to take television's most famous zip code off Fox's schedule. The heartthrob who played Dylan McKay in "Beverly Hills 90210" said he moved on because he was dissatisfied with the material. "I am not going to bite my tongue and say, 'I think this is good material,' if I don't think this is good material," Perry said in TV Guide. "Somebody has to have enough sense to pull the plug and say, 'You know what? It's great what we've got now. But if we go any further it's going to be less and less and less.' " Perry will appear with **Bruce Willis** in the forthcoming movie "The Fifth Element."

□

Sir Derek Jacobi is being honored with the Shakespeare Guild's theatrical excellence award. **Dame Diana Rigg** will make the presentation at the 65th anniversary gala of the Shakespeare Library in Washington, where the composer **Marvin Hamlisch** will play a piece he wrote for the black-tie fete. And two Miami City Ballet dancers will do a scene from "Romeo and Juliet."

□

Is it above and beyond the call of duty to expect benefit chairmen to do the tango? No, it's not, according to the three chairmen of the Ballet Hispanico's 19th annual gala dinner, scheduled for May 5 at the Plaza Hotel in New York. **M. Weston Chapman**, managing director of Oppenheimer & Co.; **Richard R. Duron**, managing director of J.P. Morgan & Co., and **Alvaro Saralegui**, general manager of Sports Illustrated, are all learning the intricate steps of the Latin dance. "Someone had the bright idea of having the gala chairmen introduce the evening by dancing with a few of the professional dancers," Saralegui said. "We were asked to learn the tango, so that we don't embarrass the dance company, which we may still do."

□

The author **Ken Kesey** and surviving members of the **Merry Pranksters** hit the road again in a replica of the 1960s psychedelic bus "Furthur," on their way from Eugene, Oregon, to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland. Along the way, there will be stops in San Francisco, Chicago, Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Columbus, Ohio. Also on board was **Mountain Girl**, otherwise known as **Carolyn Garcia**, ex-wife of the **Grateful Dead** lead guitarist **Jerry Garcia**.

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